Sort

Smarts are genetic

If mental illeness can be inherited, why not mental wellness, or superiority? Shizophrenia has about 80% concordance amongst twins, but it was once thought to be bad parenting.

IQ

Kinetic ability vs potential ability (should reduce the fear/hatred of differences in IQ):
People overestimate the value of Intelligence in comparison to motivation, delayed gratification. How many people do you living up to their potential? Is it because they don't know what to do, or because they won't do what they should? If the difference in results is traction, not horsepower, then don't worry so much about someone's bigger or smaller motor.

Cascading advantage:
People underestimate the value of small changes in some types of intelligence. They cascade. If you learn how to learn faster, or better, it cascades across all the new learning. Imagine a bookshelf vs a stack of books. Some people develop tricks early on that are the shelves. Hit a golf ball a little crooked and see how crooked it ends up 100 yards away.

Different is better:
This social programming to search for equality amongst men ignores the value of evolution, competition, meritocracy, and the resultant emergent fitness and excellence that results. Different, sometimes better, sometimes worse, is a requirement for robustness and progress.

See higher resolution:
Measure mental ability more like physical ability. Look at the detail measured in the nfl combine: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NFL_Scouting_Combine

When you create an IQ test, you use specific stratagies to avoid cultural bias, and measure useful traits, like memory, speed, visualization, rotating objects in ones mind, etc. Why not just declare the results by category. The test maker knew what he was measuring. There's no reason to mush it all together.

Intro

Intro

You do less than you could, and know more than you need. What happens to those who exercise and eat well? They become fit. Are you fit?

If you're unfit, is it due to a lack of knowledge? Any exercise works, any diet works. Eat less, move more. It's certainly not the knowledge that is the problem. Millions of men choose to learn instead of do, and they die quite unaccomplished and smart. This is the quiet desperation of the intelligent. Be smart, even wise; but only as a means, not an end.

Knowing isn't doing and knowledge isn't action. What you need isn't more know-how, but more desire. If the world were to transform to one where everyone did what they thought they should, then it'd need more know-how. While you live in a world where almost no one does all the things they think they should, you have more a discipline problem than a knowledge problem.

Would you rather have your cake, or eat it? There's a similar challenge choosing between knowing how to do something, and actually doing it. They're related, but quite different in practice. That's why great sports players learn from coaches that can't play better than they can. Knowing and doing are different, yet related.

Grow your mind with action as a guide. Adding to the list of things you know you should do, but do not, is pain. The value of knowledge comes only from application.

Amplifiers

Chemical stimulants

Caffeine, amphetamines, the chemicals your own brain can make after meditating or firing an empowering pattern off.

Habit

Mindset

Internal language

(the tricks you use to keep exercising are the same tricks you can use to keep thinking about hard things. "If I can't, I must"

See the structure. Abstract, categorize, chunk. What is it like?

Environment

Silence

There is nothing but the work. Your mind will hit you every few seconds to do the old bad things you used to do, and as you tell your mind to fuck off, after a while, it just stops trying to get you to do stupid shit. As you starve out the old habit, eventually it just dies.

In

(xx should be respect? What languages you should speak)

Speak a single language

If it's better to say new better things in a single language, then the same limited things in several language.

Learn these language

Learn the language you need.

Learn the language of business (Warren Buffet's advice) (accounting).

Learn the language of scalability (programming).

Learn the language of entrepreneurship (influence).

Stop breaking words

Let's break all the words! Let's call everything rape and everything racism, and that way we can destroy the usefulness and uniqueness and power of those words! Yes!

Perception, attention, lense, focus, paradigm

Focus control / attention economy, have high standards for what you pay attention to!

Back in the good ole days, it was very hard to find information. Now it's too easy to find information. We went from having to meet with people physically, to being able to speak to them over a distance on the phone, to email, to texting, and now you rarely need to speak to the person and ask them a question because we have Wikipedia, YouTube videos, blogs, Twitter. We are drowning in content. There's lots more signal to be had, and there's lots more noise, too. Since the signal is always lower in quantity than the noise, if you have good standards for what you *should* be paying attention to, it's not distraction, clickbait, and social proof.

Every day that passes the amount of bad content and wrong ideas is created more and faster and more convincingly than good content and right ideas. Since they put less time into building good ideas, they have extra time to figure out how to sell the bad ideas better. Now that's a tragedy. Those with the best ideas are too busy building them to market them. Marketing of ideas and building of ideas are wildly different, except in one area. The building of marketing / communication / influence ideas. It's self-referential and amplifying. All the other ideas aren't.

Lens of Scivivalism- What you look at affects how you feel, don't focus on the suck

What you look at affects how you feel. If you grew up around people that are shitty and what you learn is shitty behaviors, then you end up being shitty with a higher likelihood. If you look at the suck in the world, that suck will rub off on you to some degree and you will feel the suck. At any given moment there's an infinite amount of good and bad things going on, and the feelings that you will feel and your perception of the world will be what you focus on.

I found it to be a good shortcut for understanding that by imagining yourself as a crystal, either a cool-looking shard of crystal or crystal figurine, like a bear, that your eyes would accept the light of what you looked at. If you tuned into and looked at a pretty light that was beautiful, say a white light or a blue light, that's what you would radiate, that's what you would feel when other people look at you. They would see the light that you are focusing on. If there was some other shitty thing going on the world and that is what you focused on, then that is what you would feel and you wouldn't just feel it, you would also re-transmit it, radiate it and become that color. Therefore, you become what you focus on and you become good at what you do. You appear to others to be what it is that you focus on and what it is that you do.

Thus, that analogy of *the energy of what you look at changing your body,* I thought was really well transmitted by the light and crystal analogy. Additionally, when you think about the way that a prism divides a white light into its separate colors and wavelengths, and that if you were to re-combine those colors and wavelengths once again, you would get white light on the other side. That's balanced. As soon as you're missing one of those wavelengths, you no longer are able to recreate white light again, because you're missing one of the components you need.

Don't focus on problems, instead rephrase in a positive light

If you focus on problems, you get more problems.

Positive Rephrasing is important: Focus on what you don't want only for a short time.

Which do you think is a shorter path to fitness, understanding losing, or understanding winning? Positive phrasing is super important. If you want to be fit, focus on fitness. You're going to hear this theme a lot. Focus on what you *don't* want literally only as long as it takes to invert it, and create the positive understanding and language of what you *DO* want. Maybe I tell you to *not* imagine a giant neon pink elephant right now, drinking some chocolate milk. Did you not imagine it? If you think about not being fat, you'll think about being fat and eating fattening foods. If you take the time to invert it, and you think about being fit, you've made your life so very, very much easier.

Understanding your perception through senses

Not only are you different from how you used to be, your vision changes, your taste changes, but you are different from how you currently are, too.

To explain, what I mean is that for instance, music, there's something called the *Fletcher-Munson curves,* which means that your hearing changes entirely based on how loud or not loud a sound is. For instance, it is widely accepted that you should master music with a reference volume of 75 to 85 dB because that's where hearing is most linear.

Thus, unless you have a calibrated decibel meter with you, it's very hard to tell just by listening how loud a sound actually is. This means that without you realizing that your hearing itself changes its perception based on how loud or not loud a sound is, I wouldn't be surprised if similar kinds of changes based on brightness existed for seeing as well.

As far as knowing what the real world looks like, we're stuck in a pretty funny spot - we not only have all these *lossy* perceptions, but our brains also are susceptible to shortcuts that make us more effective some of the time, of being less effective other times. For instance, you always see your nose, it's always there, but you just never notice it, and the same thing goes for blinking. You never really notice your eyes blinking, even though it's literally making you blind in both eyes for a moment.

Then there are things like infrared, which we can't see, but machines and animals can. This means that they can actually see temperature. There are even animals that can see polarized light, which helps them hunt, and it helps us recover erased and hidden writing in ancient documents or crime scenes.

Point being, if current you is so different from past you, and current you will hear the different sounds in the same song differently based on whether it’s a little louder or a little less loud, then how the hell could you expect another human being, in their past or present, to detect the real world similarly to how you view it?

You can avoid lots of arguments by just understanding that when you see dark blue and someone else sees purple, it might be they chose to deploy the words differently, or it could be that they really do see the color differently, and are judging it the same, but off a different input value to their brain.

I know that one of my eyes sees sharper than the other, and I know that they both see color slightly differently, in that one is a more red tint and one is a more blue tint, or as they'd say in the color correcting business, one is warmer and one is cooler.

This also applies to people that color calibrate photos, monitors, display devices, movies and films. They adjust their brightness to a reference level, usually 120 cd/m, but as you learned earlier, it's very hard to know what that light level actually equals to in their brains. Some standard, however, is better than no standard. Standards are the language that the world speaks in, that makes interoperability and communication possible. I guess you could say standards are the cooperative language of non-humans.

Thus, know that your perception of the world is probably very different than everyone else's, sometimes for good reasons, and sometimes for not so good reasons. Therefore, you shouldn't waste too much time arguing over perception if you can avoid it. You can use some tricks to figure out how a person's perception actually works, for them. That's how we build vision correcting lenses for contacts and seeing eye glasses. We can look at their eye and make a pretty good guess based on the shape to measure what kind of lens they will need to make their vision better. It's not always perfect though, so what many people end up doing for better results is testing a whole bunch of different lenses and answering the question, which is better, "this or this", "this or this".

Now even that is a funny experience as well, because once again, people don't understand the decisions that are being made. Based on how you change the red and green color questions, you will affect your color perception. Because if you're correcting for an astigmatism, you have to choose a middle ground of correction, you can't perfectly correct both the wavelengths with the same glass. You affect how you see vertical and horizontal lines differently, then on top of all of that, the lens works better when it's smaller, closer to the eye, and made of a glass that has a higher *abbe value*.

How many people know that their vision correcting glasses made all these tradeoffs, and that they can have better and worse color and contrast perception based on the material and coatings that their lenses have? What a complex world we live in.

What we think we perceive is so very often not what we actually perceive. Hard to make good decisions when you have bad data.

Set your brain for well-roundedness

If you have your brain set for well-roundedness and you're able to execute pretty awesomely in all areas, it's also very likely that you're not going to be an idiot savant. It's very likely that it's going to be harder for you to produce levels of excellence intellectually in a very advanced intellectual field in regards to those people that don't have the overhead of an honest and good life and a brain that works well socially. Social understanding and social excellence is actually quite advanced.

Vision

You can make people think your website is loading faster than it really is by changing its color:

https://www.jstor.org/stable/30162328?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

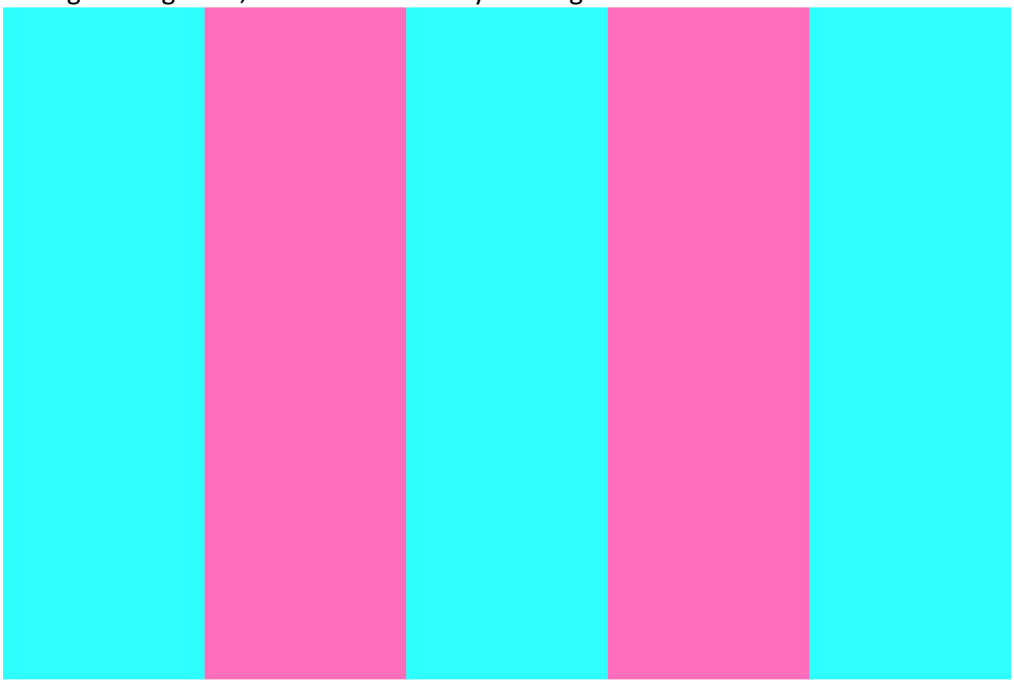
Our eyes evolved to sense the natural environment that's most useful to us.

What's trying to eat us, and what are we trying to eat? This is why we see greens better than blues. Much more of the land we live on and eat from is green. As a matter of fact, we see blue so poorly, they often encode less of it in our videos, and display it using less pixels, because we see it with such lower resolution. Of our 6 to 7 million cones, we've got 64% "red" cones, 32% "green" and , only 2% "blue."

From <http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/vision/rodcone.html>

Different vantage points (birds move their heads around, to see more of the world, like a sampling rate, and so we have emotions which cause us to move our heads around as well, like blurriness causes us to squint.)
(this is spirtual understanding regarding emotional programming, and how you can better influence others.) Why are some color combinations pretty?

We didn't just evolve physically to see different colors better than others, we also evolved to prefer certain colors in combination with other colors. Some colors look great together, and some look very bad together.



Vs



If a color combination is only activating one of our three cones, it would make sense for us to respond emotionally and try and change our vantage point to see if we could get more light, or a better perspective on what we were looking at to engage the other cones. In some cases, poisonous creatures have also chosen red and yellow to signify that they are poisonous, and will harm or kill you.

There's a fancy name for colorful warnings in animals:

Aposematism

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aposematism>

Mutants exist!

Interestingly, a very small group of people have 4! Xx see tetrachromy))

If you take a look at the color wheel, many of the prettiest combinations are at opposite sides of the color wheel. That's because they engage more of the xx sentence missing

We like color combinations that are on opposites to each other on the color wheel because they provide maximum contrast, and engage the most color sensing cones in our eyes (Xx missing)

The reason our brains naturally care about colors that are on opposite ends of the color spectrum, is because we know that we have the best idea of seeing what's there, because there's no other contrast that can show an edge because the edges are already shown by the maximum contrast.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aposematism

Knowledge

Ignorance

We need more why's. Because without the why, if you don't have a g1ood why, you shouldn't be teaching that shit. If you can't teach a kid why something is important, it's actually not important. You should stop teaching it.

It's amazing how little we know, like what's on the other side of the wall from where you are right now? Like, what is in your neighbor's house after all?

Smart pays better

http://www.samuelwbennett.com/college-academic-performance-and-future-earnings/

Education

We don't need smarter losers, we need stupider ass-kickers. We need to trade education for motivation.

If it's true that the world doesn't have a knowledge problem, it has a doing shit problem, then isn't it funny that what everyone values is a college education which only makes you smarter, not more effective, not more productive, not hungrier, not with higher standards, just smarter. We don't need smarter people, we need people that use more of what they already know.

Economy of learning

Learn the minimum you need to learn to get the job done. The things you need to know to get a good thing done is going to be a very very very very very small set of all the things you could possibly know. That means that you're almost always better of restricting what you learn to what you actually need to know for something you're doing, than you are trying to overlearn and hope that there's a good collision between what you learned, and what you actually needed to learn. If you knew how much doctors used google to search for your symptoms, you'd understand that even overtraining doesn't keep you from still having to learn specifically about the problem at hand. Overtraining is the enemy in a fast moving world. You will usually learn much more from applying what you've learned in the real world than just reading about it anyway.

Knowing facts doesn't mean you're intelligent

What you know, and your ability to use what you know are only loosely related. This means you could learn lots of facts and have no idea what to do with them, or you could be super intelligent, but not know enough about the real world to find any place good to apply that power.

Car Mind analogy

Knowing this is the fuel for your engine. Intelligence is your engine. Just as a real engine smashes and explodes fuel to create motion, heat, and power, so too does your mind smash together ideas to create new and better ideas and actions.

Knowledge is what you know. Intelligence is how well you can understand and manipulate what know. You can increase either of them, however, you'll find that knowledge is greatly easier to increase than intelligence. It's easier to walk for longer than it is to run faster. You can always walk twice as long, at some point you can't run twice as fast.

Know thyself. Are you the light or the dark?

If you can't get better answers to hard questions than others, then you probably shouldn't be influencing others. You're not the light shining in the dark, you're more of the dark. If you want to get things right where everyone else gets them wrong, then it's really handy to know what common things most people screw up, so you can avoid those traps yourself.

Knowing what you know

Just smart enough to be dangerous

The uncanny valley of true knowledge.

When you don't know how complicated the world is, and you present simple solutions for complex problems, you get to discover the hard way why those solutions were bad ideas.

If you think the world is a simple place, and you understand that simplicity, then you have the contentment that can come with ignorance. If you realize the world is a complicated place, you can become fearful and worried that you don’t understand it well enough, even though you're better equipped to perform in it than the content and ignorant man. That is the uncanny valley of understanding the world.

Simpler ideas are often more useful

Seems like the smartest people feel obligated to read things that they feel are at the edge of their understanding, so they can feel like they're growing. The problem is that

if you're one of the smartest people, that shit at the edge of your understanding isn't really useful to most other people. It's quite often that people stupider than the smartest are much more useful to the general public, because the shit that they study is within the realm of understanding of the common man.

Knowledge is asymmetrical

Knowledge asymmetry example

At night the person on the dark side of the window can see the other side fine. The person on the brighter other side can't see shit. When you're dealing with noise, the person on the loud side you can't hear shit, but the person on the quiet inside can hear it just fine. That's why if you're in the attic working, no one can hear you, but you can hear everybody. When you're in the shower, you can't hear anything but everyone can hear you.

Isn't it cool that there's a strong and weak position for both light, sound, and actual knowledge? It would be great to always know whether you were on the weak or strong side, before you started making decisions, for instance trading a market, or negotiating.

Learning tricks

Peak state and staying engaged while learning

Motion is emotion

Peak state practice and Tony Robbins' "Date with Destiny"

The best event or seminar that you can attend in the world, that I'm aware of, is Anthony Robbins' "Date with Destiny". It's expensive, about five thousand dollars, it happens over, I believe, five days, and they don't tell you this when you sign up, but those five days are going to be 16 hour days. Now, you may ask yourself, how on earth do you keep a bunch of rather old, rather plump executives and other types, that have five grand to blow on a seminar, a couple times a year, and very specific places that you have to travel to and pay for your accommodation, how do you get those people to stay engaged and learning and happy about the experience for 16 hours? The solution is, depending on how you want to frame it, really, really awesome and amazing, because it works, or rather disappointing, because it's so goddamn simple that you would think that it shouldn't work. Basically, the magic is you stand up, you jump up and down for joy, and are genuinely happy and dance to fancy music and massage the people around you, and do shit that seems totally alien in the muted, static, non-moving world that we're used to these days. If you were to look to when you were younger, when you were a kid, or, if you see kids in the mall, they're running. I'm not sure at what age the running stops, but the kids love to run, and climb, and jump, and search, and then sometime between then and where we are now, that shit dies and we get scared, and we're like "No, I don't want to act any different, people might notice me."

So, does it work? A hundred percent. Do I want to actually do it to demonstrate it? No, because I'm not used to doing it, but I'm going to, because in this life you only get the results of that what you will actually do, knowing about shit doesn't matter so much, doing the shit matters

much more unless you're so very lucky to be a coach or someone that can influence the world through, you know, mass media. If it's anything that you or the people that you interact with is actually going to benefit from, it is very, very, very likely that it is something that you're actually going to need to do, and not know about.

- Learning through games
  - Chess

    Being good at chess has very little value outside of chess. Knowing to cut off escapes before you move in for the kill, leave options open with forks, value tempo and position, know that some things can be sacrificed for position or speed, and realizing that different tools excel at different things. That's about it, and I'm being generous. Those lessons aren't even obvious, and I'm not sure you'd learn them without just being straight up told them. Learning logic is much, much better than learning chess.

    From <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dItUGF8GdTw>

- Information sources
  - Be careful who you take advice from

    It's funny, if you ever learned *neuro-linguistic programming*, *NLP*, one of the cofounders of the system is Richard Bandler, and Richard Bandler has been fat for as long as that system has existed. I've never seen Richard not fat, nor have I seen him not smoking. Maybe he kicked the smoking, but he has spent a lifetime fat though. To the intelligent person, you have to be careful to take investment advice and life advice from homeless people, and you have to be careful in taking personal development advice from people who are fat and smoke, and have done so for a very long time, yet advertise they have the cures to these very things, and that the cures are fast, painless and take nearly no effort on your part to execute. If that was the case, then why wouldn’t the person or his partner have accidentally cured them of that obviously stupid shit by now?
  - Forums

    There appears to be a distribution of quality of comments, at the very beginning, and just before the very end, I'd say at the 1 percent complete, and 85-90 percent complete positions in the thread. This would make sense, for threads that you see, are most likely to be on the front page. Threads on the front page are those that were most recently posted in. As threads get older, and things get figured out, they become less interesting, and thus get commented on less, which makes them less likely to be on the front page. This makes them less likely to get commented on again, and the info, and problem may have already been solved, or replaced by more interesting problems.

    Thus, you know to look at first page, and 85 to 90 area of the thread. To show you the negative space, the final posts are almost always the worst, speaking only to trivia or tidbits that is relevant to the least number of people, for if it were relevant or interesting, it would get bumped down to the 85, to 90 area with responses. By definition, the fact that the comments were last, means they weren't worth responding to, thus they're likely to be of lower quality.

Identifying good sources of knowledge in forums

Forums, cutting through the bullshit

Forums and mailing lists are likely to get worse over time, so you may have to find new sources of good information as their signal to noise ration deteriorates - idea density. Some sources of information have very high signal to noise. Parables and the laws of nature are very useful in minimum words.

Hit the sweet parts

There appears to be a distribution of quality of comments at the very beginning, and just before the very end. The first post usually gets updated with the most important things. I'd say, at the 1 percent complete, and 85-90 percent complete positions in the thread. This would make sense, for threads that you see, are most likely to be on the front page. Threads on the front page are those that were most recently posted in. As threads get older, and things get figured out, they become less interesting, and thus get commented on less, which makes them less likely to be on the front page, which makes them less likely to get commented on again, and the info, and problem may have already been solved, or replaced by more interesting problems.

Thus, now you know to look at first page, and 85 to 90 area of the thread

Skip the bullshit

The final posts are almost always the worst, speaking only to trivia or tidbits that is relevant to the least number of people, for if it were relevant or interesting, it would get bumped down to the 85, to 90 area with responses. By definition, the fact that the comments were last, means they weren't worth responding to, thus they're likely to be of lower quality.

Calling out Idiots

Every time you see two people disagreeing on TV, if you wait a few years, and go back, you can probably tell which one of them was a dumb ass and wrong. It would be fun if similar to a justice porn channel, there was a look how wrong this dumb ass was channel.

Commencement speeches and final speeches

Commencement speeches are both time-limited and optimized to benefit the listener with actionable useful advice. Final speeches are time-limited and are optimized for speaking about a thing so important it’s the last thing people want.

Votes and picks don't count, unless they come at a cost

Horse pickers

Pick horses at random, send lots of the predictions, watch when the guy that randomly got 4 picks right in a row sent to him thinks you're

awesome. Otherwise people can vote on all possibilities and look right all the time.

- Speed up videos and audio
  - Try watching videos and audio at 1.5x speed if you can understand that fast. Understanding is all that matters. If you need more time, slow it down.

Learning through history

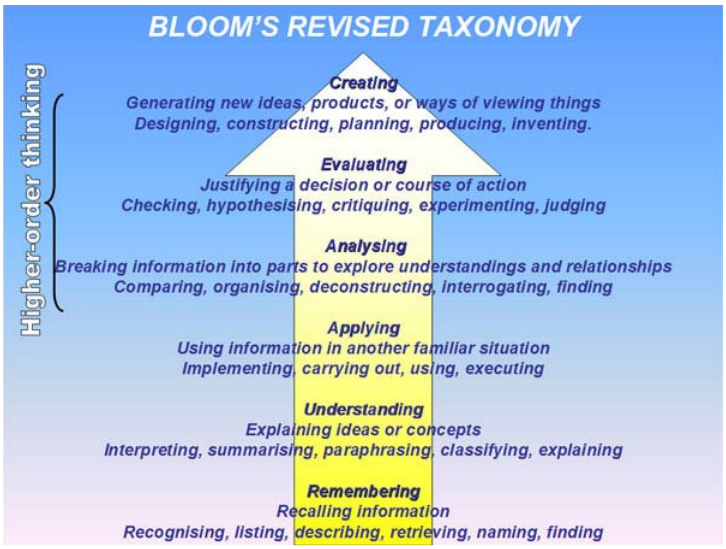
- Liberal arts
  - Trivium
    - Grammar Logic rhetoric
  - Quadrivium
    - arithmetic, geometry, music and astronomy

Misunderstanding is worse than not knowing

- Terribly drawn graphs
  - https://www.reddit.com/r/funny/comments/4xq89g/my_local_news_channel_doesnt_know_how_bar_graphs/
- The Unbearable Asymmetry of Bullshit
  - http://quillette.com/2016/02/15/the-unbearable-asymmetry-of-bullshit/

What is knowledge? Know the right things

- The usefulness of knowing the difference between *intelligence* and *knowledge* is mostly to get you to stop wasting your time and focus on things that matter instead of sitting out thinking you're smart, while you're beating your peers at all the wrong things. You know sports better than your friend? You have failed. You are better at last year's video game that no one plays anymore? You have failed. You have put thousands of hours into Donkey Kong to be the king of Kong? Congratulations, you're are the biggest fish in the smallest toilet bowl.
- Difference between intelligence and knowledge
  - When looking at the mind, one way to understand the difference between intelligence and knowledge is the way a computer does. You have a *CPU* that does all the processing, that's why it's called the *central processing unit*. It's only as useful as your ability to feed it work to process. Knowledge is your memory, and much like your computer has long-term and short-term memory (hard drives are long-term and ram is short-term.) A computer with no memory is pretty useless. A very intelligent man deprived of things to learn is equally tragic.



Xx What is the source of photo, should be mentioned here

Mental tactics, don't waste your consciousness on probability

I need to finish a play on words, which is *nature abhors a vacuum* and I think it would be funnier to say *nature loves filling a vacuum up with useless shit* - because it's more accurate. It's not like the vacuum gets filled with stuff that was useful. Step two, whenever you learn cool new information, you can't go too deep on the rabbit hole for information, it's too long and too far out, you'll just die with the information and the trough of disillusionment.

You're better off not learning what's going to be coming out one day. You easily waste your consciousness focusing on probabilities that are unlikely. You should really focus on the things that have already actually happened and are just coming out of their trough of disillusionment. The summary of this text would be *mental tactic for knowledge*. Skip the trough of disillusionment and it's also *Betteridge's law of headlines* - if any headline asks a question, the answer is always no.

Eponymous laws - build on the communication of great ideas

Modern discoveries are often named after those who popularized an idea. Back when our understanding of the world was much less accurate, some men made such great contributions of so many ideas that have never been seen, that you couldn't name any one thing they came up with at "*their name's law*", because they had a bunch of other great discoveries as well. These days for any given person to have more than a couple laws named after him is rather rare. This is partly because it's harder now than ever before to make tons of contributions, for the same reason it's easier to make a single one, information sharing. Back then if you were working on a hard problem, you might very well be the only person on the planet doing so, for communication was slow and inefficient. Now the same communication that brings you great ideas to build on, is the same communication that creates a leveling effect against your ability to massively produce ideas in series without someone else "stealing your thunder" and making great progress on what you've made known.

This is better for the world in a lot of ways. First, we all build on the backs of giants, and so must we offer the improved ideas we build to those that come after us to

stand on as well. It's easier to remember these laws, because they all have unique names. How easy is it to remember the *Streisand effect*, when you know the story of her trying to remove pictures of her house from the Internet, which angered the Internet, and when the Internet is angry, spreading data is what it does best. Needless to say, what few people would ever care to know about became quite important, for only the fact she wanted it hidden. It's insanely likely that the idea of drawing unwanted attention to a small thing by trying to hide it and getting caught was well known long before the Barbara Streisand incident, however, it was never so easy to remember previously.

That's what's great about a law. Ideas are only as useful to us as we remember that they even exist, and when they should be used. It's even better if you know how to use them accurately. *Knowing is half the battle*, they say.

Some of these laws are really interesting. If you hope to add to the world's understanding of complicated things, you too should hope to phrase an understanding so well, that it becomes a law named after you. This idea of naming things after inventors applies in more places than just ideas.

More at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_eponymous_laws
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Lists_of_eponyms

Displaying strength - learn from other animal's success

If paying attention to what works in the world that we live in is an effective strategy for discovering what works, which is tautological, the important educational point there is that by seeing what works for other creatures and in nature, you can kind of extend that discovery into other areas. If you see in the animal kingdom that strength gets chosen a lot more often than weakness, it could be very likely that in your life, and in most other people's lives, displaying strength pays off a lot better than displaying weakness. The point here is that by understanding some parts of life, no matter what they are, if you're intelligent, you can usually learn something unexpected about other parts of life, because lots of things in life are related.

Acquisition: How, when, why, where

Mission should not be to get the best of logic

You see all these super smart super logical people that disagree about things. If they disagree about things, that means one of them is wrong, which means that one of those two super genius, super smart, super logical people is horribly wrong. In this case, the other one's right, or, they're both wrong. It is possible, though very unlikely, that they have misread the question and they're both right. Your mission in life shouldn't be to get the best of logic unless you want to add to the science or teach people logic. If you want to lead a good and wholesome life, you don't actually need that much. Logic and the logic you need isn't that complicated. It seems like if you go farther into that rabbit hole and farther into the complicating anything that you might learn, you won't be able to benefit from, because you don't have the horsepower and the time to properly apply it and know when to apply it.

If you spend all day building tools instead of using tools, you're a good tool builder. It doesn't mean that you're good at using the tools.

I don't want you to believe that getting smarter is the best thing that you can do. I don't want you to believe that understanding logic the best is the best thing you can do. This is because in my research, looking at the past of all the other human beings that have ever existed, those that you would be most likely to trade places with, if you could be convinced to do so, or those that you respect the most are almost never the best at the thing that they did. They might be quite good, they might be top ten percent, top two percent, but they're almost never the best, because to truly be the best at a thing, you've got to make a load of sacrifices in other places in your life and endure pain to overly push out in that one singular direction that one singular focus.

You probably only see the upside and not all the sacrifice, pain, sleepless nights and lost friendships, because it's not well marketed to you and no one is making any money selling you that idea.

Your perception of how fun, pleasurable and what you get out of other ways of living than the way that you currently have, is heavily weighted towards it being a lot better than it really is. No one finds profit in telling you the truth that everyone that has done a hard thing that other people have tried and failed. Knowing that being the smartest and the most logical is not your aim, it's not your goal and that you'll probably endure a lot of pain from not being well rounded. Both success and failure leave clues. If you do the same things that people that failed did, you're likely to fail. If you do things that winners do, you're likely to win. Highest and best behavior is hard to measure because best is very subjective. What's the best color for instance? Judging highest is much easier than judging best. When everyone learns the same shit, it becomes valueless.

We have an entire culture of people going massively in debt to waste their time learning things they can never use. Because value is indirectly proportional to availability, since everyone's learning the same shit, it's all infinitely valueless. It's the same reason you can't make money as a photographer because people do it for free. It's hard to make money as a musician because people do it for free. If you do want to make money in this world, you've got to do what other people don't want to do and can't do, so they're willing to up the ante and pay you a little bit more to do it. Learning what everyone else does, thus by definition of value, the least scarce knowledge is therefore the least valuable. Don't be a weak robot, do what Google cannot do!

Richard Feynman had a great talk on this in regards to a conversation that he had with his father. They were in the Boy Scouts and they would go off into the mountains and hike alone, and the other boys wanted to come along because his father was such a great person to talk to, learn from and be educated by. He was a well-rounded thinker, and he really valued his alone time with his son and wanted it to be more personal, more of a family thing. While the other kids would go out to the woods and learn what all the birds were called, Richard

Feynman's father said that what that bird is called is the least important thing about the bird. Let's learn everything else other than what the bird is called, because we could learn what that bird is called in ten or fifteen different languages. After you know the fifteen different names for the bird, you now know nothing about the bird. What does it eat? Why does it make the sounds that it makes? Where does it travel? Is there an altitude that it likes? How long does it live? How educated is it? Can you make it smarter? Everything that is useful to know about the bird is basically outside the set of names that it's called.

Do what Google can't. Things you know that you aren't using, replace with synthesis and higher level understanding. If you want to be a crazy Google, please instead learn to do what Google cannot. Being good at Google is better than memory. Memory tricks are the easiest to teach and learn, unfortunately having a great memory is pretty useless these days. Being good at googling is better than having a great memory. The crappiest pencil is better than the best memory.

Techniques

When to acquire more information and how much

There should be a word for not learning about the difference between things and comparing the ratio of the range of variants and the quality that can be obtained if you have extra information, versus the range of time that you can spend learning about making that decision properly. If someone hasn't invented that concept of that idea, I should. The decision is to whether you should continue to inquire information or not is the range of quality divided by the range of time that it would take to learn to get the quality.

Ultimate Knowledge of a thing sometimes defeats the purpose of the thing

In life, some things need to be kept secret to work. If you go to see a comedy show, they don't tell you how they design the joke and how the joke has evolved over time, which versions of it didn't work and which timings of delivery worked, what kind of response you are waiting for from the audience before you go to this thing. If they told you, any of that shit it wouldn't be funny. Ultimate knowledge of a thing sometimes defeats the purpose of the thing. It's like watching a film after you've studied filmmaking; You can never see films the same again because you are always looking to the motives and intentions of the director.

Having just enough knowledge to be dangerous - being a dilettante

Now, you can just use that knowledge to support whatever you were going to support anyway. *Oh, I think you should get better sleep because of serotonin reuptake, or aliens, or vibrations, and crystals, and global feeling stuff.* It's literally appeal to ignorance. However, you don't know you're ignorant, which makes it a different thing. Knowing enough to be dangerous is how people get electrocuted replacing their blown fuses with aluminum bars.

The good news is that people misunderstand most things. How long does it take to break when you're going extremely fast on the highway? Or how hard it is to turn a motorcycle when you're going extremely fast and when

you start breaking? You can't turn anymore because it brings the bike upright. You don't realize those until you're already dying. You don't realize that you should not be messing around in your electrical panel until you're already dying. It's good that the rest of the world isn't that way. Maybe you take too much of Vitamin B, maybe you get a headache or something. Worst case scenario is a headache, but take aspirin. You know, if you don't realize that taking too much aspirin literally kills you. You might be the kind of guy that thinks that there's not a minimum affective dose, more is always better and doesn't understand how medicine works or doesn't understand how the human body works. As a result, now you're in the hospital, fighting for your life because you had a really bad headache. You thought just a couple more Aspirin would finally kick it finally cure it. Now you're dying.

The likelihood that you will benefit from knowing a little bit about a thing and that ending up with more harm than good is directly proportional to the complexity of the thing that you're talking about. The more complex and hard to understand that thing is, the more likely you are to mess it up and get harm instead of benefit. Knowing enough to be dangerous really exists in the real world. You can know whether you're getting more likely to get usefulness or more likely to get pain. Out of a layman's understanding of a thing, based on the complexity of the thing, you should probably shut up about super complicated things of which you might have saw one episode on the Discovery Channel.

Doing beats learning

Who becomes more fit? The man who fills his days reading books on weightlifting and diet, or the man who reads no such books, but never misses a morning round of pushups, pull-ups and squats? Learning about fitness is not fitness. Learning about dance is not dancing. Learning about success is not success. Unless you are a teacher or author, learning is only as useful as it turns into action.

Learning by doing

I am of the belief, that there are things that you can learn from doing, and that's totally useful, and that there are things that you can learn only through teaching.

Know the difference between the method and the reason

Is what you think you want what you really want, or should want? Could you want something better? Know the difference between a means and an end. Don't confuse means for ends. *Means* is another word for method, or way. For instance, if you wanted to know what you should eat, most people would be far better off searching for *healthy tasty food*, instead of *why am I fat*.

How to widen your understanding

There was a saying regarding your choices what you do with your career in life, it's called the *Helsinki bus station*. The theory of the Helsinki bus station is that when you come into this world and learn how to speak and to do things, and specifically, or in this case, if you go to a college, or a high school, that puts you in the bus station. What you find is that all the buses hit all the stops leaving the

city, and only after a couple stops have passed and you're out of the city do you start to get differentiation, where you're ending up at stops that all the other buses weren't ending up at. That divergence, just like a tree, a tree has a trunk and then it has a crap load of branches. Those branches quite literally sprout out into space, three dimensionally. Why do they do that? What's the only reason that branches on a tree do that? Because that's where the light is. The light isn't where you started, because there's something else already there, absorbing the light, there's a leaf in the way. Thus, you don't get any light if you stay there. The education system is the same way. I like this tree idea better, I just invented it.

I like the tree idea of valuing, staying on the bus long enough to get the hell out of the city so you can start to get variation and find your unique way to benefit this world. Maybe your way isn't unique, but you punch so much harder that you do the same way better. Maybe you got off at one of those earlier stops, but you're doing it better. If you want to actually have a wide and varied background, and a wide and varied understanding and ability to do things, the most poisonous thing you could do is go to the same restricted place, learn the same restricted things from the same restricted people, for the same restricted goals. How the fuck do you think that will work out? You're maximizing your similarity to all those that came before you. How are you supposed to make an impact and a difference if you started the same place, and then made the same decisions? It's a terrible way to start. If you're going to go that route, maybe you stay doing it long enough that you ride the same idea deep enough that you can actually start to make breakthroughs at the very end. Some things work like that, some things don't. Some things, no one's working on them. You could be that guy. Maybe synthetic biology's your thing. Maybe you think bio hacking is your thing. When they were building *Apple* in a garage, they weren't in college learning about how to build Apple. The coolest, most profitable things that have affected our lives, a lot of them were not designed at the end of a long bus ride. They were a short bus ride on a path that most people just didn't take.

Act on your knowledge

Knowledge is knowing what to do, a skill you don't have to win arguments or teach people. If people aren't going to act on the information anyway, who cares if they're right or not? Right and wrong are only as useful as action.

GREAT ACTIONABLE TIPS FOR LEARNING

1) Acquire chunks of knowledge and apply them in different settings.
2) Take breaks to improve your memory and your ability to solve problems.
3) Structure your learning. Map out prerequisites, and start with concepts that you need 80% of the time. Prioritize knowledge that adds genuine, direct value.
4) Learn in differing environments, work with knowledge in differing ways and use multiple senses.
5) Read other's learning journeys, have mentors, and gain feedback. Work on your ability to be vulnerable in order to do all of this effectively.
6) Leverage your emotions by making information and problems more engaging.

From <https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=11075086> from https://medium.com/life-learning/how-to-acquire-knowledge-6b00bcdb6179#.lxytsdguh

Learn when you are young! It multiplies over time

Learning is the most affordable when you are young, and has the most value to multiply over time. It affects your trajectory the most, and your acceleration, and thus, your end point is maximally influenced. What good would be learning your times tables on your last day alive?

Improve your learning by deleting non-useful stuff

Delete non-useful (history, astronomy). Insert useful (logic, ethics, mnemonics (not great but better than history)). If the world has changed over 100 years, but the learning about it hasn't, you're doing it wrong.

Re-viewing content so you don't miss the benefit

If you're not rewinding the video, or rereading parts of a book, it's very likely you're letting the data and ideas pass right by you, and you're going to not only miss out on it, but not even know where to find it again when you discover you missed it. Good luck figuring out the spots you zoned out during an hour long video.

Accurate predictions a way of thinking to discover

Learning about the real world, how the real world works and what is likely to happen in the real world by having a good ability to recognize patterns and extend them into the future. This is quite similar to knowing the past and learning from it, and thus being more accurate in your predictions. Even more advanced, understanding statistics and being able to come up with an estimate of how likely to be right your prediction is, and what your prediction really means (false positive paradox, Monty Hall problem, prosecutors fallacy, etc.). It lets you discover and use a way of thinking that is quite hard to arrive at by other teachings.

What I have learned as a matter of discovery and usefulness is that you make much better decisions and are much more aware of what is actually likely to happen in the future when you just make a grid, and fill it on the top and side with all the possible things that could happen. It seems like great discoveries can be made when you skip your brains natural and useful estimations of what is probably going to happen in a situation, and actually manually chart out all the possible outcomes you can think of.

You could consider this the brute forcing of a solution to a problem. It’s funny, sometimes you'll be tested on your ability to do some fancy math, and you can look at the problem intellectually, guess a number that might be close to a solution for it. Just try sticking in a few answers in that range and discover the solution faster by just trying some different answers that you think might work, than it is to try to purely mathematically systematically use the real algebra that would solve the problem.

This is similar to the statistics learnings in that, if you test positive for a thing, you don't have any idea how much that means you actually have the thing unless you know two things. First, how good the test is, and here's the magic. Second, how common is anyone to have what you're testing for? Then you multiply them. Better test, more likely, more people have it? Also more likely. Conversely the less common it is for people to actually have what you are testing for, and the less accurate your test, then the less and less likely you are

to actually have what you've tested positive for. You must know both things, or you literally can't know how confident you should be in your test result.

Time value of knowledge

The time value of knowledge can be easy established by trailing indicators. If you know what the future is going to look like a minute before it happens, you can trade it and become nearly infinitely wealthy. If, however, your indication as to the state of world is delayed by a minute, then you'll constantly lose every trade you make.

A trailing indicator is when you find correlation but you can't make any money on it. Let's say you got Google Search Volume, Bitcoin price and your using Google Search Volume for the term *Bitcoin* and tying it to the chart of Bitcoin's price. You'll find that when the searches for Bitcoin price go up, the Bitcoin price goes up and vice versa.

Here's the problem, which one of them comes first? A trailing indicator is something that cannot predict the future, it's just something that says, *Hey, the future already happened and therefore you don't get to make any money on it.* Looking at a chart of the taxonomy of ideas is a trailing indicator. It goes, *I'm glad that we've got these new ideas that you've taught, put into and order and made excellent, and now we're going to analyze those ideas using this framework that can just analyze what already exists between and cannot whatsoever be used to generate anything new.*

Sometimes the organization of ideas into a chart will allow you to understand what already exists better, but will confuse you and make impossible the generation of any new thing.

Time value of knowledge and optional knowledge

Optional, not just because you don't need to know it now, but because like options in the real world, you pay for them. If you buy an option and learn something you don't need to know, you will have paid for that option. If you use the data, the option paid off. If you don't use the data, you lost the time and effort of learning the depreciating in value knowledge, at the expense of other knowings you might have been able to act on.

Depreciating technical knowledge / false intelligence

The fallacy that being good at chess makes you good at anything else
https://medium.com/message/why-chess-will-destroy-your-mind-78ad1034521f

Educate yourself just before the task at hand

Learn what you need to know right before you're going to do it. If you learn something before you're going to act on it, the landscape may have changed and you might have to relearn it all again, wasting your time. This is especially true for techical issues, for they are improved so rapidly.

Consensus on who the experts are, by other experts, especially across disciplines

Expert by consensus of winners

If Tony Robbins and Tim Ferriss, along with some other pretty resepectable dudes both take time out of their well curated books to speak well of the same other expert, then it's likely that expert is worth looking into.

Amazingly useful and dense sources of knowledge

- The stickied threads in forums and discussion forums in general
- The stickied posts in subreddits on right bar
- Infographics
- Wikis (can be dangerous if you browse too wide or deep, must maintain focus control and choose not to learn lots.)
- FAQ's (some are too bloated.)
- RTFM (*Read The Fucking Manual*)
- Hackernews
    - I leave this last, because the reason it's the last bastion of intelligent discussion out there.
- Decay of communities over time
    - Puns, quips, jokes, off-topic posts, trolling, all these things amplify when there's an audience that rewards them. It's self-referential, as you get the first troll, he will interact with new trolls, thus trolls beget trolls, and jokes beget jokes.

The places I've found with the densest, most useful information mineable places I've discovered

- Summaries of the classics, some of this stuff is good.
- Summaries of good modern books, a couple good ideas per book at least
- Memes: All successful memes have a reason they became successful, like the /pol one regarding "*You're much more likely to die of Y than X, so why are you upset I want you to increase your chances of dying from x?*"
- Eponymous laws: From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_eponymous_laws>
- Quotes and parables

Curiosity pays great dividends

Curious people get really smart. By definition, we must learn about the topic in question, and we care about it, so we'll watch a 2-hour video about the boring to everyone else thing, because to use, we must to fulfill our curiosity. The upside is that you can go deeper than most people, and find happiness easier with this giant world of cool new things. The downside is you can get locked down random paths of depreciating knowledge, or trivia, at the cost of your productivity. There's an art to knowing when to learn, what to learn, and when to attack.

People love to think that there's value in things that they don't understand, which is a useful disbelief, because it amplifies the desire to understand that which you don't. Curiosity pays great dividends. When I see something, and I don't understand it, I want to understand it. Not even because I think that there's great value in understanding it, it may be something stupid and trivial, but because I take pride in understanding things for the sake of understanding them, even if they're a waste of time.

Being curious and learning about cool shit, recognizing new patterns and ways things are done, things that can exist and how they can exist in their forms amplifies the speed and quality in which you can generate new forms, styles, beliefs and strategies and recognize or create patterns that other people couldn't, even if those actual individual things sucked. Curiosity is a much better way to waste time, and experimenting and tinkering is a much better way to waste time than say, mindless trance inducing techniques, which destroy consciousness. Or, you know, drugging yourself into a coma.

I believe people sometimes fall afoul over over-assigning important things that they do not understand into pseudo-science, and into pseudo discovery. Just because you don't understand it, or it seems complicated doesn't mean that it is good or right. Just because you read a religious text that is complicated as fuck and doesn't make any sense, because it is poorly written, has no frequently asked questions and has no table of contents, it wasn't written in a language that you speak, hasn't been updated in thousands of years, and has conflicting fucking translations, it may seem important to you, because you do not understand it, because it sucks. Similar to other things that you don't understand that do actually have value, you are blindly assigning importance to a complicated thing where truthfully, the stuff is not accurate and it will do more harm than good. If you accidentally assign factual truth to fiction, then you will build your world view and your ability to make better, faster, smarter decisions in the future on inaccurate realities that never actually existed. Therefore, you have optimized your world that doesn't, hasn't and will never exist.

Best knowledge usually found with unquenchable thirst

The best knowledge can't be read. You must beat it out of the world with your unquenchable thirst. Science and research teaches you things that no one has ever known before in the history in the world. Playing catchup isn't going to make you rich.

Discover and learn by doing what works

Many great discoveries are made by accident. Many great inventors come out of liberal non-technical arts educations. Lots of people find money laying in the street. Who gives a fuck? You can either do what you know leads to an outcome, or fuck around and try everything but that, and see what gets you there faster. Try walking home by going every direction but home, and I think you'll figure out which one works better.

If you can't find the knowledge you seek, you may need to create and discover it yourself.

General ideas you can try new places

Pushing-pulling effect

There's an efficiency of stairs over ramps. You'll notice that stairs also take more material, and I think that an analogy can be made between how

most multicellular living organisms appear to operate with a structure of hard surfaces and polling services, so basically tension.

You have hard things, which basically take no effort at all to resist compression, it's just their natural form. Then you have tendons and muscles that do the soft pulling stuff. It's just an interesting concept that in effect, like when you stand up, you're not really using that much energy, because you've just got things balanced right. You're taking advantage of non-compressing properties of bone. That makes you wonder where else in the world we should see a similar pushing-pulling opposite effect. Maybe you could say it's concrete and rebar, because rebar resists the pulling and concrete resist the pushing.

Cross polinational discovery

The use of the word *accident* to describe scientific breakthroughs and discoveries that happened in a lab while you were looking for a different thing is kind of a waste of the term accident. The term accident that people are used to is an accidental thing that occurred that you weren't expecting. However, if you're in a material science lab and you find a new material that does some weird shit, you were in the lab. You put in a couple $100K of equipment, $100K of dudes, $100K of education, you got a half a million dollars sitting there trying to make discoveries, and you just happened to discover something different. That's not a fucking accident. If you're flipping burgers at Burger King, you're not discovering shit. I think a new word should be invented for the cross-pollination, cross-jurisdictional, sideways discovery of something in a discovery palace called a lab.

Knowing the difference between a test and an experiment

It's important to understand what I believe the difference between experiments and testers. If you test something, you have a very reasonable expectation of what passing and failing looks like. As a person grading the test you learn very little. If I give you a multiple choice test and you do well, I learn basically nothing other than how well you did on the test. If I give you a slightly different test, which is much more subjective in its grading, if I tell you to write me a ten page essay on the most important problem in the world, now I'm not only going to learn what you have decided to choose as the most important problem in the world, but I also might learn something about that which you have written about.

Knowing the difference between a test and an experiment is that it's a lot easier to learn from experiments, because you aren't sure of what the range of possible solutions is, and you're trying to perform learning as your goal. I'm doing this experiment, I want to see what happens. That's why it's an experiment, let's see what happens. I think that a useful definition of the difference between a test and an experiment is your intention as to whether you're trying to learn something or whether you're just trying to give someone else a great thing that makes a big difference and separate from your tension. How wide is the possible solution set? When you do an experiment, the range of solutions that you would accept as proper outputs is all of them, assuming you

performed a good experiment, didn’t screw it up. When you give a test the range of solutions that you would be comfortable with receiving, they are very specific.

I think the most important thing you can learn from knowing the difference between a test and an experiment is that you're going to learn a lot more from being open-minded, experimenting and looking for learning and building on discoveries that were unexpected. You're going to get more out of experiments than you're out of tests. There's probably little else that you could do to learn less from another party than give them a multiple choice test. How are you going to learn from that? What are you going to learn? Not much.

Become a Google-fu

We have the most powerful knowledge finding tool the world has ever seen instantly and freely available to us. What a great time to be alive! If all the knowledge of the world is nearly free, then how can you secure advantage for yourself over your competitors in this world of limited resources? By being able to find better knowledge than they can, faster than they can. Enter the Google-fu. Why wouldn't the most powerful search tool on the planet have some bad ass rarely known functionality?

Teach kids how to Google

Symbol	How to use it
+	Search for Google+ pages or blood types Examples: **+Chrome** or **AB+**
@	Find social tags Example: **@agoogler**
$	Find prices Example: **Nikon $400**
#	Find popular hashtags for trending topics Example: **#throwbackthursday**
-	When you use a dash before a word or site, it excludes sites with that info from your results. This is useful for words with multiple meanings, like Jaguar the car brand and jaguar the animal. Examples: **jaguar speed -car** or **pandas -site:wikipedia.org**
"	When you put a word or phrase in quotes, the results will only include pages with the same words in the same order as the ones inside the quotes. Only use this if you're looking for an exact word or phrase, otherwise you'll exclude many helpful results by mistake. Example: **"imagine all the people"**
*****	Add an asterisk as a placeholder for any unknown or wildcard terms. . Example: **"a * saved is a * earned"**

..	Separate numbers by two periods without spaces to see results that contain numbers in a range. Example: camera **$50..$100**

Search operators

Search operators are words that can be added to searches to help narrow down the results. Don't worry about memorizing every operator, because you can also use the Advanced Search page to create these searches.

Operator	How to use it
site:	Get results from certain sites or domains. Examples: **olympics site:nbc.com** and **olympics site:.gov**
link:	Find pages that link to a certain page. Example: **link:YouTube.com**
related:	Find sites that are similar to a web address you already know. Example: **related:time.com**
OR	Find pages that might use one of several words. Example: **marathon OR race**
info:	Get information about a web address, including the cached version of the page, similar pages, and pages that link to the site. Example: **info:google.com**
cache:	See what a page looks like the last time Google visited the site. Example: **cache:washington.edu**

Note: When you search using operators or punctuation marks, don't add any spaces between the operator and your search terms. A search for **site:nytimes.com** will work, but **site: nytimes.com** won't.

From <https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/2466433?p=adv_operators&hl=en&rd=1>

Free information everywhere - grab it!

There's a better way to live. I believe in utility. I believe in ***Scivival***.

You're lucky enough to be alive in the greatest time that's ever existed. Free information coming out of your ears, free amplifying tools to make whatever great idea you come up with spread out into the world. Your phone is a super computer, an ultra-connected device. Everything is as good, it's better than people imagined it would be 100 years ago, 50 years ago, 20 years ago. It's better than we thought it would be. We have the least war we've ever had, we have the best health we've ever had. Because of the best news gathering and news presentation that we've ever had, it seems like everything is worse. But it's not, it's the best it's ever been.

Learn things you care about!

Easier to learn things you care about, hard to learn things you don't. Elon Musk & rockets (SpaceX) Xx Explain

Memory

Importance

Check out how large the memory section is on this Wikipedia page: http://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Child_prodigy

If you want remember what you were reading, or doing

Retrace your steps, and reopen your tabs, go back through the same steps the best you can remember them

The method of loci

Take a picture of your parking spot, so you can't forget

Put your keys and other important stuff on your shoes

Memory and brain contests

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_world_championships_in_mind_sports

Learning

Amplifiers first

If math doesn't help language and language doesn't help math, why don't we teach first things that amplify everything else? If someone is learning harder than another guy, and you asked him why, he could say "because I want to be the best." Or, "I want to be better than that other guy" or, "I want to feel proud of myself". Teaching pride, excellence and competition, those things affect everything, you should teach them first. If you don't get those, if you don't make people care, well then really, how hard do you think they're going to work anywhere else? Discipline and motivation are the tide that rises all educational subjects ships.

Only master few thigs to become great

You only need to master a couple of things here to become great, you surely don't need to master half at all. As a matter of fact, you'd probably be much better off only learning a few of these things and becoming super bad ass at them, than being relatively bad at all of them. The reason for this is that many of the things here help you personally so very much more than they help the rest of the world, that you are much better off focusing on the things that benefit the rest of the world much more than they benefit you.

This works because the world can do more than you can. 1000 men can build something amazing, something that try as `u might, you could never build alone in your lifetime. The chance that you can greatly influence this world through the use of many of your fellow man is at least 100 times greater than the chance that you can do so alone. Why? Take a look around you, how many of the things you use, enjoy, see, how many of those things were made by a single man?

Be a great discoverer of truth, or detective

How does this relate to the rest of reality that is vastly less tested nor testable? I believe the learning is that you must look for that other magic part that is so hard to miss, you must look for the not thing, you must look for the thing that isn't there, or is the opposite of the obvious thing, what's the missing part? What should be here that isn't here? It's like a great investigator you might see in a popular television show, movie or book, you could say *Sherlock Holmes, Colombo*, or *Dr. House* they account for the following things lesser detectives never think of: Is my test wrong? Could it be

wrong in this case for special reason? Did something intermittent happen here, is the current state of the scene not representative of when the crime occurred, rain, weather, people, full moon? Lighting?

Minimum Viable Education

What is the minimum effective dose of teachable knowledge/skill? Input, process, output. ala grammar, logic, rhetoric, trivium fame.

Success leaves clues. The most effective often have little mental tricks they apply when thinking, some are mnemonic, some are turning ideas into locations, some are pretending new ideas are just like old ideas, and applying the old learnings, etc. Find those powerful commonalities.

Stop making kids bad versions of Google. We don't need more bad data storage in human minds, we need more of what the machines can't do yet, creativity, love.

If you must make kids bad versions of Google and shove facts into them for lossy storage, then at least teach them mnemonic technique and logic first, google-fu, so as to amplify all their future efforts. Do not teach the amplifiers last, let them pay dividends over time. I was lucky enough to have logic taught to me first before any other math's at grade 6, because of an experimental advanced education system. After logic we learned scheme programming. I think those frameworks greatly helped me in this life, as nesting of ideas and good data processing is super powerful in all areas of life.

Better and worse exist, find better, choose better. Do not be a coward and pretend that worse doesn't exist.

Summary: teach amplifiers first. Then teach minimum effective commonly useful data processing, then specialize and become great.

Specialization is why we have genders. Dimorphism lets us not over-allocate excellence in a single place at the cost of another place. Great things come from specialists. If the value of skill is in opposite proportion to supply of that skill, then everyone learning the same things by definition means no one will pay for that skill or knowledge. There's some exclusions to that idea, such as language itself, however the theme of slapping knowledge/skill on a supply/demand curve is a good one. Much of this idea is hammer in Xx check Peter Thiel's 0-1. less 1 to 1 horizontal iteration and more 0 to 1, no one else is working on this thing kind greatness.

What is minimum effective curriculum before specializing?
What is the minimum viable education?
What is the correct execution order of those skills?

For instance, how important is it to teach kids to write essays, when they actually don't have much useful to say? Maybe you should work on having useful things to say much harder before you learn how to beautifully say them. Imagine that you did the opposite, imagine that you taught effective rhetoric before logic, and now you've got better salesmen of bad ideas. That's worse, not better. Think of the places in the

world where women aren't allowed to drive cars. How did that terrible situation arise? Great marketing of terrible ideas.

STEAL IDEAS FROM OTHER LIFEFORMS BEFORE THEY DIE OFF

Which organisms are we most likely to benefit from stealing ideas from? Can we prevent them from going extinct before we get to learn those ideas? Is there a way to capture the ideas pre-extinction?

Even the tools that we now have to change the blueprints of life, we stole from life. Bacteria and viruses are the source of our most powerful DNA editing tools currently.

We are meat. Animals are meat. The animals have all kinds of amazing tricks and tools their meat has developed. We could use some of their tools. If they become extinct, we can't learn well from them any longer.

If you want to take advantage of the millions of years of building with the best tools we're aware of, real evolution over long time periods, and you don't want to wait for a couple million or hundred million years for the next go round of that thing maybe evolving again, then you should try to prevent extinction of the organisms most useful to learn from for our own benefit.

Real world testing by doing

Why test kids when you can put them in the real world via the Internet, and have them solve real problems?

There are all kinds of people out there that have problems that they'd like to have solved, and these useless kids could be the ones to do it. However, if you can't find a thing in the real world for these kids to use to practice on, then stop teaching it, it's obvious no one needs it, or you don't know anyone in the real world, one of the two.

Teaching through story instead of fact bashing

Teaching through story sacrifices bitrate for emotional attachment and depth for stickiness and virility. This might be why viruses have a quite limited payload.

The reason religions succeeded where science has failed is because they appeal to our tropes and memes and thousands of years of story, where science is cold and has nothing.

Must actually have a church, a structure and the songs and ritual stuff that goes around it, and sadly *the us vs them* mentality.

Common parts of good stories: Arc, relation, father/son, dark light, mirror, order, reversal, betrayal, greed , lust, conflict, what are these common powerful tropes? Which do you like the most? Using us vs them language.

Easy way to learn

If you ever want an easy way to teach kids the importance of geometry, one 18-inch pizza is more pizza than two 12-inch pizzas. Do the math.

Don't let school interfere with your education

"*I never let school interfere with my education*" -Mark Twain

Waste away in college

How could any learned man be satisfied to waste away in a college or university building ideas that are going on quite literally in the real world?

Apprenticeships

https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=10989341

Six Arts

"*The Six Arts formed the basis of education in ancient Chinese culture.*" - Wikipedia

More at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Six_Arts

Cinderella effect

Separating kids from parents and giving to state for education e.g. the republic (Plato's) is at least bad because of this:

"*In evolutionary psychology, the **Cinderella effect** is the alleged higher incidence of different forms of child-abuse and mistreatment by stepparents than by biological parents. It takes its name from the fairy tale character Cinderella. Evolutionary psychologists describe the effect as a remnant of an adaptive reproductive strategy among primates in which males frequently kill the offspring of other males in order to bring their mothers into estrus, and give the male a chance to fertilize her himself. There is both supporting evidence for this theory and criticisms against it*."

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinderella_effect>

Failure of Education system

Essays-section of the book store hides great ideas

It's rather stupid that much of what you need to be a great person, and have correct beliefs and actions in this world is hidden in the essays section of the library and the book store? What a stupid way to name an important category of the most in depth thinking? Why is *Hitchens* and *Nietzsche* and *Ralph Waldo Emerson*, *Machiavelli*, *Henry David Thoreau*, *Will Durant*, etc. are hidden in this stupid category. This category is literally called something we're taught to hate as kids.

The failure of the education system (Xx There's more content like this in the *World* section)

Kids know their time is being wasted with useless knowledge

Kids know you're wasting their time; they know they're never going to use this shit. If you're too stupid to come up with an example that's compelling to them when they would use it, then you're dumber than they are, because you don't realize that you're wasting their time. Stop wasting everyone's time. There's enough to learn in this world that's actually useful to learn, teach them that. If you have an hour of math, an hour of history, an hour of home-ed, where's your hour of motivation? Where's your hour of visualizing the future? Where's your hour of finding something to care about? Where's your hour of planning and dreaming something that spices you up? Where's your hour of the amplifier and multiplier? The only weak link in the chain that will make any of those other six or seven hours of school worth a shit. Teaching people things they will never use or teaching people things that they could use if they cared, is only as useful as the caring. No caring, no using. You're

amplifying the strong part of the chain, not the weak part. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

We have a motivation problem and they don't teach that in schools

We do not have a knowledge problem. We do not have an education problem. We have a desire, and will, and motivation, and discipline problem. It needs to become a class, it needs to have a curriculum and it needs to be taught, people need to get degrees in it. You should be able to meet someone not having to go through some esoteric business training class, not having to go through some religious experience.

Liberal Arts Degrees and Education system

Everyone gets these liberal arts degrees and goes to a liberal arts college, and no one knows what liberal arts means. I thought I knew, because, you know, I went to college for a while, and I was around people that went to colleges, and I thought that it was like applying butter to a piece of bread; I liberally apply butter to bread because it tastes good. It turns out that in reality, the liberal arts, the word liberal means free. They made it a long time ago, say 2,300 years ago, 2,400 years ago, about 300-400 BC, they decided that the trades, such as building and farming and commerce, like shop keeping, things like that, were for idiots. Those were the lowest things you could learn, and that a free man, that had his own freedom and wasn't a slave, should learn the awesome things and then they categorized those seven awesome things into a set of three and a set of four. The set of three, the trivium, those – believe it or not, that's the root of the word trivia – they didn't even like these three things. You might understand it as *reading*, *writing*, and *arithmetic*. They understood it as *grammar*, which is getting data in, *logic*, which is manipulating the data, and *rhetoric*, which is speaking the data and getting the data back out. They didn't even look up to that, that badass input-processing-output system, they didn't even like that. That was where you started, and where you were to end up was the four things that they actually liked. Now mind you, I just told you three of the seven things that are considered the liberal arts. These next four, when I tell them to you, you'll have a complete understanding of what the liberal arts are. Notice that they're not building, they're not engineering, they're not business, they're not medicine, they're not the things that are the most useful things in the whole world, but they think that they're the most important.

Multiple choice tests should be destroyed - no more accidental success.

The entire education system was designed a thousand years ago

The entire education system is designed around a decision that was made a couple thousand years ago, that was wrong. The world that we live in today is not very similar to the world that we lived in then. Business, and medicine, and basically the things that people look down upon now, those are the important things. The things that they thought were important, like philosophy - ehh, we've kind of got most of that stuff figured out. We don't really need more people in that area. If you don't think that we've made diminishing returns in the philosophy area, there's 200,000 people a

day dying right now. What percentage of those people are dying from lack of philosophy? They're dying because their bodies are falling apart. That's 200,000 people a day, and one day soon, you will be one of those people. If you don't want to be a rotting piece of meat, a walking corpse, a short, less than a blink of an eye geologically, then you should be focused on shit that gets you to stick around a little bit longer. If you find yourself following the suggestions of thousands of years old, dead people, who optimized for a world that they lived in, that is not very similar to the world that you live in, you are fucking up. If you're taking liberal arts and you don't understand that the choices, the false choices, the artificially restricted choices that you get to choose from in regards to your curriculum exist because some wrong person, that has decided that music and philosophy are anywhere near as important as engineering and medicine, that was what they decided to call the free arts, the liberal arts, then you're making the wrong choice.

Here's the points to summarize. I understand what the liberal arts are. It's a judgement call. It's an artificial restriction of your choices that you think you're getting a wide, balanced, well-rounded education, when in reality you're being crippled, being taught the least valuable information that you can learn, being taught things that you will find the least useful possible.

We've had all types of bubbles in this world. We've had bubbles in housing, we've had bubbles in stock markets, and now there's a bubble in the education system. And bubbles - unfortunately, human beings psychologically don't react well to them. We're very okay with increases in pay, we're very okay with increases in quality of life, but we're very not okay with decreases in pay and decreases in quality of life. It's called the *Keynesian ratcheting effect* in economics. Just like a ratchet, turns really easily one way, doesn't turn so easily the other way. When you have a bubble in education because people have forgotten why education exists, education is not supposed to be babysitting in the collegiate level. Education is not supposed to be learning for learning's sake, and if it ever was, fuck those people. That was a bad decision, a bad design. There's a better way to live. I believe in utility. I believe in Scivival.

This is what I feel liberal arts, education and much of what the education that exists in this world is, it's learning the names of things and learning that they exist, and never deriving useful value, or getting any type of actual benefit from that learning. Learning to learn, for learning's sake, so that you can say that you did and take a regurgitated test where you puke facts back on the paper the same way that you received the facts in the first place, and then rapidly forget that crap because you never ever use it again in the real world, what could be worse? What could be worse than convincing someone that to be a good person in a society, and to be useful in a society, they need to learn things that don't matter and understand them in a way that's not useful, only to forget them again

shortly soon when their life and their consciousness and the supporting of their family and the obtainment of their goals revolves around all of the things that you excluded from their education?

Personal finance, personal presentation. How to be a good friend? How to be fair to yourself? What does being fair to yourself look like? What does being fair to your friends look like? What does being too easy on others look like? What does losing friends because you didn't get things signed in writing and then now their own subconscious works again them and they misremember the past, because it's financially profitable for them to misremember the past? It's easy to misremember the past.

Liberal Arts degrees

If you still think the liberal arts are there to teach you how to learn, you misunderstand why they are there. There is a study of how people learn, there is the ability to major in education, there is the study of where knowledge comes from, there's a fancy word for it. If you want to learn what is knowable and how we know what is knowable, and perhaps the best ways to learn things, if you think learning things is memorizing things, well then you should study memory, and that should be a course. People who compete in memory competitions, that should be a course. I wouldn't be surprised if the liberal arts removed that from the ability of the course selection guide, because it's too goddam useful. We need things that are less useful, so that we turn people into losers. They don't understand they're losers, because we use proof by complexity.

Better education results

If I can get you better results for yourself in a shorter time frame than college does, is not the education you get with me worth more money? Specifically since it is saving you more of your time.

Important topics of education

If you didn't take ethics and how to be a good friend, how to manage your personal finances, and how to stick up for yourself and how to be fair to yourself, which everyone knows in the entire world that those things are vitally important. If you learned the order of the planets from the sun instead of those thing, you fucked up. You spent your time the wrong way. You are less effective and you were less of a good person and a less powerful being now because you deprived yourself, maybe by accident, maybe through ignorance, you didn't know you could learn those things. If you think liberal arts is to teach you how to learn, that's called *epistemology*, and you can go into that and education and the study of learning as a thing. When they're teaching you music, they're not teaching you how to learn. When they're teaching you writing, they're not teaching you how to use your memory - they're different goddam things. Don't fall for the hype, don't fall for the bullshit. If you want to create super learners, I guarantee you that your things that you study won't look anything like the curriculums that are out there now.

You can find excellence by diving deeper into areas than others

We've gone far and wide. In summary: if you think the liberal arts are giving you a clear, unbiased option of learning from all of the things that

are learnable, you are widely, widely far from the mark. You're totally wrong. In colleges, you get to choose from a course list. That course list is taught by humans. Those humans teach what they feel they're capable of teaching, and often times with a hell of a lot of guidelines. I don't think that you could find a more restrictive, less choice-based, less varied, less structured way to learn a thing on the whole planet. It's the most organized, the least adventurous, the least varied. There's the least number of options available to you. That's the opposite of a wide-ranging education. A wide-ranging education would be you opening an encyclopedia or an atlas and you pointing to a page, and that's what you're learning. There you go. You have all the things available to you. Having available to you to learn all the things, that's actually a wide-ranging education. That's actually how you might find a passion that other people haven't that you can profit from. That's how you can find an excellence; by diving deeper into an area than other people have.

Chronological education

The education system revolves around you not getting to learn a new thing until you learn the last thing. In case you didn't learn the last thing, you don't get to learn the next thing. They keep you in that class again and again and again and then and only then when they think you'll benefit from a harder class that builds on the last class do you earn the opportunity to learn that new thing.

If all the knowledge is free, then why would you pay for an education? If the knowledge is free, what are you paying for? To waste your time and your money?

How do you tell who is smart

Teaching what they wont use

If you want people to learn, there are things that the learner never uses. Then you can make an actual study guide that you expect them to finish that you can charge for that they can actually use. So if I tell you *Hey! Go on Alibaba, buy something you like, stock it at home, sell it, you'll get rich*, that's one thing. I tell you we're setting up an account at Alibaba now. *Ok, now we're logging in, now we're looking at the best sellers. Now we're going and we're looking in the retail market, we're seeing what they sell for, OK, there's enough profit. Now we're going to place an order and we're going to have it shipped this way to your house. Then we're going to put an ad out. It's going to have your phone number and you're actually going to answer it.* Walking you through the steps and actually getting you to do them and holding you to a higher standard is more valuable to you then just knowing a thing exists. Knowing that sales exist is nothing compared to being able to sell. Knowing that dancing exists is nothing compared to being able to dance. Getting the premium content out there that there is a thing that can be done well and here are some ways to do it. Getting him into your paid program where, because they've paid, they'll actually follow through and you discover that if people don't pay, they don't follow through. Look at the completion rate for massive online courses versus normal courses. It's like four times higher for a normal

course. Why? Because people paid for it, they see loss, they feel sense of loss and so if you're in the education business, you should have paid content. You should have free content. You probably should even change the price of your content, like drug companies do based on who's buying it.

They charge you money to do it, they take all of your time to do it, and it was all based on a thousands, multiple thousands years ago judgement call as to why these ephemeral, artsy fartsy, hard to iterate on, hard to get feedback on, hard to even choose one way of living over another way of living. We know one way of building beats the shit out of another one, because we can measure it. Xx To do what? Paragraph vague/point missing

Failure of the education system

Isn't it a little odd that all of the things that businesses and professionals pay thousands upon thousands to go to boot camps to learn could be easily taught in school, like scheduling, goal setting, positive feedback and loops?

Imagine someone's flabby arm, and they're having a conversation with it, looking at it and say to it, *I don't understand this flabby arm. I want it to be stronger.* Then, I tell it about all the different ways that you can get stronger; about eating protein, about doing curls and chin-ups, and doing pull-ups, and all the things that would help it grow. However, it just sits there and it just doesn't do anything. No matter how many different things I tell it, it never gets stronger. So, dear Internet, why doesn't talking to my muscle make it stronger? And that you see, is the reason that education doesn't work. We don't need more people to be told things. We need the people to do things.

Words

XX controversional/funny: Stop diminishing the meaning of the word survivor

I don't particularly like when they call everyone a *survivor*, like a rape survivor - is rape usually fatal? What's the point of the word survivor, if you didn't avoid being killed? There should be perhaps a new word for a person who has avoided being raped, as survivors have avoided being killed? Dickavoiderpro? Stop breaking the language, because you enduring something shitty, horrible and terrible, doesn't make you a survivor, surviving makes you a survivor, and surviving means avoiding death, not avoiding rape, not avoiding getting your limbs ripped off. If you got into a fight with a bear, got all your arms and legs ripped off, and still survived, then you're a survivor. Notice, you still lose the fight pretty bad, however, even in losing, you are a survivor, because you didn't die.

If there was no threat of death, it's the wrong word. Go make a new word for enduring and living with events and shit that sucks. Don't steal the word survivor from the countless people that actually avoided actual life ending injuries. It's supposed to be a badge of honor, not a badge of sadness. Cancer survivor, good. Getting license from DMV survivor, who gives a fuck.

Process

Creativity

Stop listening so that you may speak.

If you spend all your time absorbing music which other people created; reading books which other people created; watching movies which other people created; watching other people have fun; listening to other people's jokes – it is very hard to be producing, when you're absorbing. We're not full duplex - you can't really listen when you're talking, you can't really talk when you're listening, you can't really create or be an individual or do that thing that only you can do, if you're busy absorbing everyone else's consciousness and not being your own consciousness. Now, do you need to start your life absorbing other people's consciousness?

Yes, you do. You just need to learn a language, learn customs, thrive, eat, break bread, make love, enjoy. You need to do that. Once you've done enough of that, got the low hanging free and once you got the Pareto principle 80 percent of the results for 20 percent of the input, you need to switch gears - you need to give back. You've been a child, you've eaten from your father's hand - time to be a father. You spoke the language, you use the language, you read the words - make your own words. You think that there's not a place in this world that you can have an impact, but if you focus your mind regardless of how retarded you might think you are, with enough focus you can make an impact.

You don't exist if all you think are other people's thoughts. You must give your mind the freedom and the blank canvas to paint your own identity, to sing your song out into the world, and be heard as no one ever before you. To be only a mirror of the random media and friends that you interact with, is to waste the unique gifts your ancestors passed down to you. Be yourself, be the best you can be. Choose who that is. Don't be lazy with it. Your standards for who you demand you will be, are the most important standards you will ever have.

Silence is golden

In a world where being creative is so valuable, it literally pays to know that your brain loves to fill silence with cool ideas of its own. That's why people come up with such interesting ideas in the shower, but much rarer in other places, for the shower is one of the few places that people choose silence and solitude. Rejecting the noise of the world lets your amazing pattern finding and creative brain do what it does better than any other machine on the planet, generate interesting and possible futures. Sit in silence, but not as a monk trying to destroy thought. Love your thought, play with your thought, it is the closest thing to the real you you're likely to find if you search. Pay attention to your own thoughts and explore them as you would the mind of someone you'd just met for the first time. What's going on in this super computer when I rest my eyes :)

Being uniquely creative

You need to keep your ears and eye open, or you'll converge on the same ideas others do, and not realise it.

A lot of comedians try not to watch other comedy, because they think that somehow it's going to prevent them from accidentally doing other people's jokes. What they don't understand is that they'll just accidentally do them a different way. They'll

accidentally do them by having a global consciousness affect them and execute the same joke through their mind, through a third party instead of directly through them watching the comedy and forgetting that they remembered it. If you had to give somebody the excuse as to why they just gave them the joke somebody else did, what you think should be more believable? "I don't watch comedy" or "actually watching comedy, making sure you're not doing the same fucking jokes".

Everything is copied

I guess the moral of the story there is, I have the same error in my brain where I'm trying to avoid polluting my brain with other dudes' content and in reality I shouldn't be. I should be shit talking their content just as I always have, because it's too stupid to actually copy anything out anyway.

Humor xx(this might fit better in respect)

Harnessing your natural processing power

Why I like set theory

Your brain Is great at knowing where things are in relationship to other things, because it is really useful for getting around in the world, and because of that , you will find that taking ideas and putting them into groups and sets in your mind, allows you to harness your positional and navigation based intelligence and harness it towards ideas that don't really have real places in the real world, or even phsyical forms that you can touch or interact with.

I think that is par tof the resaon that set theory and venn diagrams allow you to understand complex ideas so much easier, because they act as a convolution layer that takes their nonphysical form and coverts it into your mind into a physical representation so you can work with it. This is kind of like how when video cards came out, and it was discovered they could solve certain problems faster than cpu's that you would take your problem and make it look like the things that graphcis cards were good at working with, and then you couuld harness that power.

This is similar to how when you take a building, you take its measurements and turn them into numebrs that calculators are equations are good at working on. You couldn't very well take your 2x4 piece of wood and insert it directly into the calculator to perform calculations on, the calcultor would break and your teacher would get pretty angry at you. So you create an abstraction and turn the piece of wood you want to work on inot a middle layer of numbers that you can then harness the processing power of the calculator with. Then when you've got the numbers that you need you can export that data out of the nuber layer back into the wood layer of the real world again, and perhaps build a house.

Sleep

Sleep thought might be better than awake thought

There is a chance that you learn more and thinkn about better htings when you're sleeping than when you're awake. It's basicly a time when your mind truly gets to decide what it shall focus on. If you never slept, then much more of your focus would be controlled by the media, your habits, etc. Perhaps all the crazy situations and scenarios you dream about are actually more important to your survival and growth than much of what you might be normally thinking about during the day, when you have more control over your thoughts.

Focus

- What not to focus on
  - Working on the unique versus improving/marketing the already known
    - Unique useful data is the most valuable to the world
    - Non unique data is usually more actionable to you
      - Ideas are only as useful as people are aware of them.
      - The global awareness of an idea is
        - Probabilistic
        - Marketing based
        - Trend based
      - If you find a great idea that's under marketed, or misunderstood, fix it.
      - If you see an idea that needs created, create it.
      - Creating new ideas or testing and proving others is more useful globally and throughout time than creating yet another copy of the same ideas already out there. This assumes that the old ideas already have good distribution networks by have allowed them to spread effectively and have their value judged.
  - Should you build new ideas or spread good buy under-marketed ones?
  - Build or spread or build then spread.
- Counting from 0
  - Seems stupid, until you try to figure out when your should get pregnant to have your childs birthday the same as your won. Lets say you are born on October 1st. Kids take 9 months from conception to birth. So 9 months after the years starts would be the 9th month right? September is the right month right? So you should get pregnant January first. Oh but wait, it takes 9 full months. So 9 full months after january is actually october. The end of september begins the 9th month, which has number 10. Now you know what programmers count from 0. xx does counting from 0 make this more intuitive? Saying 9 complete months, or the end of 9 months, (starting the 10th) also makes it intuitive. This seems similar to the fencepost error where you need n+1 because you must end after the end of the fence piece.
- Intelligence
  - General Intelligence
    - The folly of measuring Intelligence
      - First, intelligence isn't knowledge. Measuring intelligence is a little misleading and stupid. Let me give you an example. Most people don't know the difference between intelligence and knowledge, so we can either word around the common misunderstanding by never using the world intelligence as the scientists do. This is the same problem I had with the language that was used oddly and specifically in the social science in regards to humans having no *instincts*, whereas the common man will tell you we definitely do, such as the fear of heights, or the survival instinct, fight or flight response, all kinds of stuff, however, they don't call those things instincts the same way that researchers don't want knowledge to be called intelligence.
    - Natural IQ Selection
      - If you think tall parents tend to have tall kids, and short parents short kids, then probably black parents black kids. If there's so much heredity going on, and we're all pretty heavily influenced by our ancestors, and our ancestors were individually differently stupid or smart from each other,

then why would it be so hard to believe that the same mechanism that changed your color and your language, also changed your IQ or reaction time? There is no god damn equality, please stop dreaming. The difference that existed in those individuals then, got executed and perhaps amplified through the ages and through time, and low and behold, we now have differences, just like they had.

Apparently no one has made the case as to why being less intelligent could be an advantage that could be selected for. First, just because it's not as far as long as some other populations selected for trait, it doesn't mean that it is not being selected for, it just might be taking longer, as the result of chance. Second, it takes lots of calories to maintain these brains, and I would assume harder thinking, more thinking, would incur more caloric cost. And third, ever seen a nerd busy thinking instead of lifting weights? Xx There was a study I read that found that hard studying increases your appetite, even though studying hard (increased brain work) only increases caloric burn very, very little (like 10 kcal). Find that study!

If it's the case that the smarter you are the weaker you are, generally, then why wouldn't that be useful in an environment where you're always chasing your food? I can think of a litany of reasons that being too smart for a thing makes you bad at the thing. Have you heard that you can't get hired as a police officer if your IQ is too high? Perhaps they're making the right decision for the resources they have, in that it costs too much to train cops that quit, because they move on to better things.

Outline of human intelligence (SUPER IMPORTANT)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outline_of_human_intelligence
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Outline_of_thought
https://www.google.com/search?q=site%3Awikipedia.com+%22outline+of%22&oq=site%3Awikipedia.com+%22outline+of%22&ie=UTF-8

Big G (General Intelligence)

If you were deprived of basically all enriching information and born on an island, just existed and didn't have culture or have never heard a joke, never heard a song, you would still have the Big G that you were born with. Let's see Big G for what it is: it's a useful metric to decide whether there are some exercises that have good fall-over usefulness.

Qualitative value of applied knowledge

Doing the right stuff first

If you're the smart guy that's done all the right stuff first, you can make gold out of other people's fuck ups, whereas if you're the fuck up, you can make shit out of other people's greatness.
The uncanny effectiveness of children brought up with a focused goal; Tiger Woods, polar sisters Magnus

The question that I have for myself is what's a word, what's a description that exists or should be invented that describes a person that gets the benefits from excellence of knowledge and action, and doesn't live without the great benefits of excellent knowledge and action applied in

the real world? Is there a word to describe the vast, vast number of intelligent, capable and genius level, literally genius level, such as learn a new language in a couple weeks if you want to read a book in that language, madness shit, *Wittgenstein* level stuff? It's funny, the number of these geniuses that are Jewish. He was Jewish, by the way, like three quarters Jewish. It seems to be a lot easier to be a super-genius if you're Jewish in this world. What's the word for people that know a great thing, but don't do it? Is it hypocrite? Perhaps. I mean, a hypocrite will say that people should do this, but they exclude themselves from the set that they call people, or make up a fancy excuse for why they don't need to. Maybe calling those people *hypocrites* is the answer. I don't know, it doesn't seem artful enough to me.

There's a difference between quality of *belief* and quality of *intellect*, and the ability to synthesize ideas with a person. Two people could be in the same place, but arrive there by totally different mechanisms. You may go into a bar, and find someone that works there because that was the best you could get, whereas someone else is there because they read TripAdvisor and that was the most delicious place in the world. One person was in the place due to the end result of a hunt for excellence, one was there because they had no other options. I think a lot of ideas and behaviors in this world are arrived at in similarly opposing methods - some people arrive at a belief through ignorance and some through complete knowledge. If you think that both of those people are equally qualified to speak to issues because they chose the same action, well, then you're in for a rude awakening. This is because one, through complete knowledge one has a lot of new options, things you can learn. Person that got there through ignorance or was forced there… Can't really build anything new with that guy.

The learning intake order of operations is really important for being effective.

Some math you can't do in a randomized order. It's not *commutative*, I believe is the term for it. And so is martial arts. If you learn all the fake ones before the real ones, you're basically starting from scratch, but if you learn the real ones and then look at the fake ones, then you basically kind of just adopt what's useful and ignore the shit that sucks. It's kind of the same with critical thinking. If you take a person that's a great critical thinker, and you put them in an environment of stupidity and falsehood, yet there's still a couple good ideas there, he's qualified to pick out the good ideas and ignore the dog shit. Therefore, if you're a smart, critical-thinking guy, you could probably derive benefit from reading lots of things which suck, which may cripple or poison a weaker mind. I guess it's like the ability to be an omnivore and digest the things that are useful and be immune to the things that are harmful. It's really an order of operations issue. If you get the wrong books first, you cripple yourself and get the worst things, the wrong things, out of the consequent books. If you

instead get the right books first, then it just amplifies your progress. That's why the rich get richer, the smart get smarter, and the divergence grows.

Mere awareness is not a skill

Similar to all other skills in the world, just because you know there is a way to do a thing better, doesn't mean that you can do the thing better. Mere awareness is not skill. Skill comes with correct knowledge practiced over time. What use is there knowing a tool exists and even owning it, if you never get the inspiration that it's now the right time for that tool?

Wisdom

Common wisdom is only so among those who are not. Xx What does this mean?

The wisdom of crowds and ignorance of mobs

You only get wisdom if everyone is guessing independently. If everyone can see everyone else's guesses, its worse, not better. Xx Idea left unclear?

What is Wisdom?

Wisdom is when your intelligence has been applied to a body of knowledge over a long enough time, and is in congruence enough with the underlying situation of the world that you have a very strong boat floating, high sailing the right way down river.

What most people think is common wisdom is surely not, and may be the definition of *the fallacy of proof* by popularity.

The wise person is usually kind of alone and not that powerful, but just knows what is likely to happen if you do a certain thing.

We need to direct intellect to more motivation, belief, discipline based things

The reason Uber was able to revolutionize, or rather create, a new industry that served the same purpose the taxi industry did, however, at much lower cost, was because there was a shit load of unused resources sitting around. There were people and cars that could drive, and there were roads with space, and everything was ready but the glue was missing. The glue that was required was an app that put people that wanted rides together with people that could give rides. And so, what is the problem that we have in the get-shit-done world?

We've got tons and tons and tons of unused resources, which is the ability for human beings to actually do shit. What's missing? Well, it's not more knowledge. We don't need more knowledge, we have too much knowledge. It's all free, it's all there, it's all the best it's ever been and you are using none of it. Who cares? You learn more? Great. Now, there's more stuff that you know that you're not using. What we need is a human desire based, belief based, motivation based, discipline based, whatever style you want to go for, glue that bridges the gap between all the stuff that we could do and actually doing it. No amount of shoving facts into people's heads is getting that job done.

Processing Power Overhead

Eye contact. If you are a persuasionist or hyper aware, then when you look at someone, you see everything. You see posture, breathing, facial

expression, lips, dryness, heart rate, you see everything. You want to enjoy being around another human being, and absorbing all of them - seeing things in them that they don't see, and seeing things in them that maybe no one has ever seen before, because they haven't been trained to absorb everything that that person is or is doing and is thinking and is feeling.

If you've spent a lot of time learning that shit, focusing on it and it's a habit for you, then looking at people has a higher overhead for you as a *hyper aware* person. By shifting your gaze from the interesting show that is the person that you're speaking to into space allows you to access different thoughts and different feelings, because the direction you look affects what you think about.

I may refine these things in the future. You only have so much processing power. What has been useful to you in the past as a human being, much of your processing power has been visual, and has been location based. Where's the food, where's my house? Where's the threat, where's my house? You need to know those things. When you see smart people looking off into space, it may be because they're able to start using the visual *where the fuck is the thing* organizational brain system to organize ideas, because they're not eating up that processing power actually looking at what's around them. When you just stare off into space, you're not actually looking at anything, but you're not being triggered to keep engaging in your actual *Where's this, where's that* system. You might be able to reassign that visual speculation processing power to process better ideas.

A word to describe what you've learned multiplied by your brain power

There should be a word to describe what you've learned multiplied by how powerful your brain is (Xx I think it's called intellect). Maybe that's called wisdom. If we have a good enough understanding of how our consciousness works to separate intelligence from knowledge, then surely we must see that either one by itself is worthless, and that benefits are only had when the two are combined. Need we invent a new word for applied intelligence over time? Like power is *energy x time*? Mental power shall be intelligence applied to gathering and synthesizing new knowledge over time.

Being Correct

Knowing when you're right or wrong

Knowing whether you're right or wrong about one thing is super important, because if you think you're right and you're not, you will stop learning. You'll be wrong and you'll force yourself into a conversation, depriving the person who is right the significance that they should get socially, and the ability to influence that they should get socially. Instead it will be replaced with your misguided ignorance. Thus, if you want to be right about things, you not only need to do work to be right, but you also need to do the work of knowing whether you're right or not. If you're a

person that only speaks in absolutes of right and wrong, you're already fucked.

A much more intelligent and realistic measurement is what is the chance that you're right in numbers? Do you think this, if 50/50? Or 70/30? How much time have you put in? Do you have access to knowledge other people don't? How much thoughts of other people have you read? How confident should you be in your measurements? Now, let me give you an example. The people in this world that are most right, are also the people that are most likely to know when they're wrong, continue to learn and continue to work and understand and test themselves empirically to see whether they actually got it or not.

This has happened to me personally a shitload of times, but I'll give you this most recent example. There was a thing that I read that said "If you get an AIDS test and you get positive and the test is 95% accurate, how likely are you to have AIDS?" They give this test to all kinds of people and it's actually so misunderstood that it's called the *false positive paradox*. It's called paradox not because paradoxes actually exist, it's called paradox because people's understanding of the world is so poor and so often in odds with the actual world, that we decide to call those things that we commonly get wrong paradoxes. A paradox exists because human's perception of reality is so commonly inaccurate in regards to this specific thing, we call that a paradox. There are a couple other definitions, but for the way I'm using this word, it's accurate. I thought I understood what the false positive paradox was. I thought if you just knew what the likelihood that you had it in the first place, that that was the magic, that understanding the prevalence was the magic. Then, I tested myself and I got it wrong, and had to Google it again. So, I thought I understood it and I turned out to be wrong and I thought I understood it again and so I got it wrong again; and so I kept Googling it and kept searching. Now, I have a different understanding than lots of other people do because I understand the *Bayes theorem*, the false positive paradox, the prosecutors fallacy and the more advanced scientific understanding which is sometimes there's this thing called specificity and there a thing called accuracy, and they're different. (xx last sentence - rewrite, lots of words without explanation)

Accuracy is how likely it is to give you the knowledge that a thing is there when it's actually there. *Specificity* is how likely the thing is to tell you that it's not there when it's not there. You'll get fuckups in both directions. Sometimes it'll be there and you won't catch it, therefore your test is less accurate. Sometimes you'll think it's there and it's really not and sometimes it's not there, but you think it is. You end up with this set of four: is it really there or not; did we really think it's there or not. And then looking at that table of four, you've got to do the math for each one of those sections and depending on how you're question is phrased you can derive those answers that you're looking for. None of those previous examples that I found went as deep into false positive, false negatives and

understanding P values specificity, accuracy. That was the most advanced actual executable useful knowledge of it. It was more advanced than the prosecutor's fallacy. It was more advanced than the false positive paradox. It was, what I found to be the most useful world war application of the knowledge that can from an in depth understanding of Bayes theorem. If you just see Bayes theorem sitting there on a piece of paper, good luck deriving meaning out if that shit; you have to know what the abbreviations mean. And in Wikipedia, the fucking abbreviations aren't fucking defined and yet you have to find out what those variables, what those Greek letters actually fucking mean. I actually edited one of the Wikipedia pages to include a definition because I saw it as quite stupid that a normal intelligent person that understood the algebra and understand that you could divide and multiply things which it's all it fucking is. It's literally just a vision of multiplication. I didn't think that a person that understood algebra would need to go find some other magical hidden statistical page that predefined these dumb Greek letters when they could just be defined right next to it as some of them were but some of them were not. (xx rewrite - a lot of unnecessary words and information)

Knowledge that makes you less certain

I don't like interesting knowledge that makes you less certain. I love the feeling of progress and excellence, and that only comes with certainty. If you don't know why the right thing is right - you don't really know it's the right thing. *I know the best burger in the city…* How many places have you had? Oh, three? You don't know the best burger.

IQ

Max and min IQ for jobs

More at:

https://www.reddit.com/r/todayilearned/comments/48upzf/til_in_the_us_it_is_legal_for_employers_to_set_a/
http://abcnews.go.com/US/court-oks-barring-high-iqs-cops/story?id=95836

Cool test:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wonderlic_test#Use_in_the_NFL_Combine
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed_Services_Vocational_Aptitude_Battery

Gender

Genders greatly affect math scores it seems on SAT? Xx Source?

IQ isn't linear for usefulness

More at:

https://www.reddit.com/r/askscience/comments/3ygt9k/what_does_an_iq_of_70_entail_cognitively/

AI

Machine Intelligence

An Artificial intelligence has an easy time doing things that you require thought for, and a hard time doing things you can do without thinking.

Computer languages over human languages

http://www.csmonitor.com/Technology/2016/0205/States-consider-allowing-kids-to-learn-coding-instead-of-foreign-languages

Difference between AI's

Classic AI	***Simple Neural Network***	***Biological Neural Network***	
Examples	Watson	Deep Learning	Hierarchical Temporal Memory (HTM)
Associated terms	Expert systems	Artificial Neural Nets (ANN) Machine learning	Machine intelligence
Data sources	Rules from experts	Large datasets	Data streams
Training	Programmed by experts	Derived from labeled databases	Derived from unlabeled data streams
Outputs	Answers to questions	Classification	Prediction Anomaly detection Classification
Batch vs. continuous learning	Batch	Batch	Continuous
Need to know what you are looking for	Yes	Requires labeled data	No
Many individual models	Hard	Hard	Easy
Biological basis	None	Simple	Realistic
Provides roadmap to machine intelligence	No	No	Yes

From <http://numenta.com/blog/machine-intelligence-machine-learning-deep-learning-artificial-intelligence.html>

Creativity

Humor but not funny

Funny stuff is funny because it doesn't make sense. Creative ideas are new and interesting, but not funny, because they work. They cause you to feel awe and inspiration more than giggles. They're related, but one becomes reality, and the other fantasy, unless it's a prank, then its real.

The amateur imitates what the master improves

Quote by Richard

Capture all your ideas!

I'm having a little bit of trouble with the rabbit hole. If you're smart and fast, you realize that everything is really related to everything else, and that everything can be learned from and applied everywhere else, and that there's an entire world ripe for improvement out there. You come up with basically a million great ideas, and the art is to just get them all captured and sort them later, so that is what I'm doing now, I just want to capture these very rough ideas and fuck with them later.

Negative space. What's not there? Inductive and deductive logic.

"You see things; and you say, 'Why?' But I dream things that never were; and I say, 'Why not?'".

From <https://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Robert_F._Kennedy> (MISATTRIBUTED, however popularized)

Try things that are old somewhere else, but new here. (Invent)

Trying ideas that work on one thing, on other things.

Cross jurisdictions with ideas for undiscovered power

Proof of work and signaling theory

You could have invented proof of work for Bitcoin, or CAPTCHA (*Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart)* for websites, you must have a phone number to sign up for a Gmail account, because they are all proofs of work that verify honest communication or identity, the same proofs of work that animals use to pretty up their "mating area" or perform their mating dance or display those cool colors that say *hey I'm poisonous, so don't eat me*.

The https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Handicap_principle which says that reliable signals must be costly to the signaler in order to be trusted. Could be used to generate all kinds of antispam, and useful social inventions, if the effective evolved principle was experimented with to apply it different places in the real world.

Location, speed, size, combination, color, material, sound, payment plans

Take what works one place, and see if it works another place. Globalization is one of the simplest forms of this. If a hotdog stand works in Chicago, maybe it will work in Shanghai. In that

model, you just changed the location. Maybe you keep location, but change packaging color instead. Or, maybe you carbonate it, you get the idea. If something works in one area of life, it's very common for it to work in other areas, too.
TLDR: What useful and effective evolved strategies can be exported to other disciplines and great gains received?
Is not the feedback system in *eBay* a digital execution of what we have in normal human to human relationships of "*trust*". Mind you, the eBay account that you're giving your "trust" to, has no face, never invites you to its birthday party, however the principle still works, and for the same reasons that it works for human on human communication.

Improve on things that are not new, but known good. (Iterate)

This is the meaning of the phrase *Artists imitate, masters steal*.

Tropes

If it hasn't been done in a book or a movie, then it may have never happened at all. Whatever you're thinking, whatever you are experiencing, it's very likely someone in one of these fictional worlds has gone through something almost the same as you. You can learn from what they learned from, or you could meet the author and see what insights he might have into the situation, because he's obviously put some thought into it to make a story out of it.

Once you see that all events are kind of the same events over and over with little twists on them, you can export tactics from situations you know how to handle well, to other situations you didn't know you knew how to handle, until you discovered they were structurally almost the same.
http://tvtropes.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php/Main/Tropes

Certain formats work so well, even the most creative industries copy them over and over again

Trailer formats and lengths

https://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=Pc71YvWG0GQ

Blue and orange covers for movie posters and DVD covers, hell, the movies themselves.

When you should worry about creativity

You must build off of greatness, you must not try to create your own greatness, to catchup, and then try and built off your own. You cripple yourself by not catching up to where the world already is. Greatness rarely emerges from a vacuum. When should you make your own martial art. Probably after you've learned a few others. When you will get more out of yourself than you will leaching others creativity. When should you write your own music? After you've heard lots of other peoples.

Creative Ingredients

Perfect pitch means you can hear a sound and figure out instantly how to create that sound. I would say that food would have something similar. When you take food, do you know how to make that flavor? You can also

kind of relate it to dance. If you see someone do a dance move on TV, can you do that dance move and how long would it take you to try? You'll find some people can and most people cannot.

That's the difference between ingredients and finished output. If you know how to dance and can break a dance set into its little pieces, then now that you have those ingredients you can combine them into a new and beautiful thing. Just like painting, and brushes and canvas are just like words. So, if you take a beautiful phrase or sentence, and then you take those words, does that mean you can go create a new amazing sentence out of those words? Well, maybe, maybe not. There's a place in this world for beautiful sentences, and then there's a place for people that can create them. There's a place for people that can create movies and there's a place for people to watch them. The universals that I'm most addicted to that allow me to create new things are surely not even of interest to anyone else unless they want to create new things themselves. There are a lot of people that are happy to eat without watching the butchering of the animal.

Shower thoughts & freeing up the mind for creativity

Shower thoughts are really cool. They are more creative than what you would normally think of, because it actually broadens the range of inputs you are using to synthesize new ideas, which is what creativity is. Your environment greatly affects the creative output of your mind, because your mind is basically trying to pre-calculate routines that might appear so that it's responsively faster if those routines occur.

It's part of what *déjà vu* is. Your brain already pre-calculated a thing that might happen a long time ago when you weren't noticing, then it actually happened and you're like - *Hey wait a sec, I kind of recognize this shit*. Shower thoughts are broader, because the range that we use for our creativity is actually limited by our surroundings. For instance, if we're in a social setting around a lot of people, our brains would try to optimize the relations between people, the environment, the posture. There are so many social things that go on in a social setting that occupy your mind, like trying to understand what other people are saying, trying to educate them, tell them things etc. It's very consuming to the mind, so when you are in the shower you probably don't have music, you probably don't have to think where to go next, or people you are trying to impress. It allows you to free your mind to create and synthesize new ideas using a broad range of inputs that can be a lot more random. This is because they're not being refined or restricted to the same content matter that exists during the rest of the day, whether we are being influenced by work, or school or by a lover or any other type of social setting.

Creative Excellence

Creative mix

If you are a creative, or a dedicated, person and just will throw lots of shit at the wall; if you identify what excellence is, the components that make it up and then just fuck around in the area and mix things together, whether it be different sounds, the correct beats, or different colors, shapes and textures for art, and then you mix and permutate those into what might be an okay-looking form that hasn't been well marketed yet. Then you can create quality production and any creative art that didn't require insane amounts of training such as actually playing an instrument instead of sampling it, singing instead of having someone else sing or sampling it, actually using digital art tactics or the assistance of others to execute an idea visually or animate.

You can create beautiful things even if you can't specifically do the thing yourself. Many books are written by multiple parties; there's an editor, there's the illustrator that does the cover, there's the person that writes the text and sometimes there's expert consultants that you go to, to see whether these things are expert on or done properly.

All you need to know is what excellence looks like, mix it up, mash it up and through that exercise you might discover a new form of excellence that people didn't see previously. Now, you've not only permutated something beautiful, but you've also added to the science, which would amplify and allow others to go and permutate beauty based on your new archetype and that has multiplying effects throughout time.

Hard to train people to be creative & feedback loops

I think part of the reason why it's so hard to train people to be creative is that there's no feedback loop by which they can, without someone else's trusted input, be told that what they did actually sucks. But, if you're building a website, and the website doesn't load, you know it sucks - it's not up for debate. If you draw a graphic, you might think it's great, even if to the rest of the world it is not. Having aesthetic understanding inside your brain as a human, even that is pretty common, which is why you don't see people walking around wearing garbage bags, usually, unless you're trying to drop weight for some sport. It's because people think that shit looks ugly. Feels bad, looks bad, smells bad, sounds bad. They have aesthetic internal programming which tells them that sucks. But, the more advanced the creative topic is, the harder and harder that feedback loop gets.

You choose an infrastructure. You choose a lifestyle. You choose a way to write a passage, a sentence, a paragraph, and you have no realistic way of knowing how far percentage-wise you are into the greatness that could exist. Therefore, it's hard to know when you should stop going down a path and work on the next thing. It's hard to know whether what you've built is the best it can be or not, and so the more creative and the harder it is to find a feedback loop to help the world train your output. A

feedback loop says, *Hey, that's good! Do more of that!* or *That sucks, do less of that*. The quicker and more obvious those things are, the easier it is to path against your own will, or with your own will, to greatness. When you get these creative things where you can't even generate your own internal, reliable opinion on whether it sucks or not, let alone an external trusted opinion, and you can't test it, well then, where you end up is much more variable and much more function of your original search space, your creativity, than it is your ability to properly path through that search space. Therefore, I think you see a lot of great software come out of America. Maybe not because they're better developers, but because they might be more creative. Maybe they are more aware of what is possible than someone that can just do the one thing that they are aware of well, but fuck a lot of things up because the things that weren't specified properly, they get done wildly wrong. But a creative person, as he's coding it and doing it not perfectly, sees that it kind of isn't what you should have wanted, and then lets you know, *Hey, you shouldn't have wanted that, so I'm going to build it differently. Thank me later.*

The importance of feedback loops

Part of the reason that you should understand how important feedback loop is the concept of the book *The Design of Everyday Things* written by Mr. Norman, where good user interface, good usability, which is basically another way of saying "human beings use it properly to the best of its ability and enjoy doing so." That mandates two things: one, that the available ways to use the thing are declared to you so that you can fuck around with it and see which ways work, and which ways don't, and that's the feedback loop. So the two core principles, and someone should check to see if there's more, XX , are, declaring the options, using the options, and having feedback that you can understand, whether what you just did was good or not. Xx Paragraph hasn't been edited, meaning unclear

Synthesis

The important part is the synthesis, this is the highest and best application of the human ability and spirit, to create something which has never before existed and is excellent. Synthesis is the mental sex which produces beautiful thought offspring.

Trichotomy

"A trichotomy is a three-way classificatory division. Some philosophers pursued trichotomies." - Wikipedia

More at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trichotomy_(philosophy)

Wavelenghts of creavitivity

If it's smart or effective to write drunk and edit sober, then it's possible that certain types of thought have a frequency at which certain types of mind states resonate those frequencies easier.

Maybe being tipsy restricts depth and enhances creativity in some ways. Maybe being on downers does one thing, hallucinogens does one thing, speed does another thing. It's therefore an interesting analogy to make that *thoughts are like frequencies*, and that they resonate inside the

chambers of one's mind differently based on the shape, size and medium of density of air inside the chamber. Not the real chamber, but, in theory, the mind chamber of a person's mind.

To expand further upon that creativity idea, when you measure a speaker, you have what are called *Thiele- Small parameters*, which measure the electrical and mechanical residents, weight, electrical motor force, magnet force, and if you have all those numbers, you can predict how that driver, that speaker will act in an enclosure, and how it will respond to frequencies, especially the musical kind. That type of *Thiele-Small* parameterization could also exist amongst intelligent beings for searched depth, searched width, how far do you go down a path before you decide it's a dead end? How many paths do you try, what value do you give to paths that seem related? I think a lot of *Thiele-Small* parameter speaker optimization, AI and human creativity and idea searching are related.

Unique insights

For creativity exercises, you could try changing the color of your environment, temperature, location, space, focus, posture or mind focus. What part of your body are you focusing on? You could use archetype experiments, where you pretend you're a king, pretend you're a poor person, pretend you're angry, pretend you're happy, pretend you're all kinds of different shit to get different perspectives on a thing. After doing all that, maybe you'll have some new and unique insights that are still your own.

Logic

Frameworks

Math

Great math learning reources

https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=14161876

How the hell is math supposed to be useful to you? Is there a shortage of people that know math? Can't wolframalpha.com literally answer basically any question you properly type into it? How are you supposed to profit off of some knowledge that is so widespread and has been for thousands of years, and now is literally done fast and instantly for free for anyone that has Internet access and a browser? Is it important, yes, but only as it serves things that are actually important. We need more people sticking parts together with human ideas as the glue, let the grunts and machines do the grunt work. Do what the machines can't. Be the middleware.
Xx advanced math? Basic math important in everyday life

Statistics and algebra are important for business and machine learning

Frameworks and organizational structure

Who is better breastfeeding? The girl. Who is better at fist fight? Well, probably the guy. Which one belongs on top? Nobody goes on top. You're using the wrong framework. You're not supposed to have a top and a bottom simplistic relationship organization

between utterly complex, utterly not simplistic things that have been always changing, always evolving different and different places relationship.

Looking on the other side of the coin

I've recently found more value than usual in looking in what is the *not* thing. For instance, anytime you look at a question, you can look at the *not* question. It's a little hard to explain, but I gave an example of programming humans with something called *frustration*, so that they halt what they are doing and go do another thing, because otherwise they could just get stuck in a loop and keep trying the thing until they died of hunger, their arms fell off, or whatever other failure mode you hit. My example consisted of several options. You could either get them to halt by hating what they're doing, or by really liking the next thing, and from a programming perspective it's much easier to hate the one thing you have obviously in front of you, than to be drawn by the vastness of everything else out there. It would be too hard to find a trigger in the everything else out there to cause a halt.

Zoom out for first principals

Because chunking and nesting ideas is so powerful, it's super useful to zoom out really far and make what you're looking at really small. This way you get all these new little hook points you can anchor the data to in your mind. It's sort of like seeing the forest as a forest instead of only seeing lots of trees.

Advanced logic

Advanced practitioners of logic, and how to have the best grasp of logic

It’s rather unfortunate that when you analyze some of the most advanced practitioners of logic in the whole world, their lives kind of suck. You take *Wittgenstein*, suicidal. Gay is derogatory, but it definitely indicates some kind of off-programming from what’s normal. Hit kids, women, was a little bit violent towards kids if they didn’t get their math right. Changed his view on religion a couple times, how does that happen? You either got it right or you don’t, you don’t really switch between one stupid thing and another thing.

You even see other people, like *Schopenhauer*, who literally had to come up with a logical framework to describe why he says that aestheticism was great, but then he hoarded shit and was more hedonistic. His excuse, his logic was that "*to be a philosopher, you need only build ideas, not be the ideas*". You can sculpt a beautiful sculpture without being beautiful, and you can be beautiful without being a sculpture. That was a nice excuse, but most people, I think, see that if you don’t use what you claim to know and what you claim is amazing, I think you greatly reduce the confidence in what you’re saying is true.

Just to give you an idea about how respected *Wittgenstein* was, he actually was a student to *Bertrand Russel. Bertrand Russel* straight

up admitted his superiority and it basically changed his life when he was talking to him and Wittgenstein criticized him, and at that moment he knew he'd never be able to add to the science any longer, because there was someone else who just had it better, and what he was doing was kind of inaccurate compared to this other guy's version of things. When you look at the productivity the guy had, he only wrote a children's book, he released like three or four things in his whole lifetime, and then, one of the most widely regarded good things that ever came out of him had to come out of his notes after he was dead.

To have the best grasp of logic, one of the best grasps of logic that the world has ever seen in the history of mankind, and yet seemed to execute logic in your own life so ineffectively, is, God. I guess it's like football players; They're amazing at what they do, and then their personal lives and their financial lives, they're definitely not. Maybe there should be some other word for a person that accurately uses what they know to the highest and best use and outcome of its possibility. Maybe that's wisdom. I don't think wisdom is enough. I mean, you never picture the wise person as young, vital and fit, nor loved and popular. The wise person is usually kind of alone, and not that powerful, but just knows what is likely to happen if you do a certain thing.

I guess what *Schopenhauer* said was accurate. You can be an amazing sculptor yet remain ugly, which is kind of a bad analogy because using logic and building logic are very similar, whereas looking pretty and sculpting have nothing in common. They don't touch, they're not related. It's actually, that particular excuse that *Schopenhauer* had for living a life at odds with what he taught is the highest and best life you could live. I don't think it accurately explained away his culpability or responsibility.

Correlation causation(More Info)

Correlation isn't causation

More at: http://tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations

Illogical Pattern finding will lead you away from truth; Correlation causation

Education regarding correlation and causation – I remember the first time that that was taught to me in a memorable way, and it was probably the only thing I actually learned in college entirely. It was a trivia question that my sociology teacher gave me. So, you're in a city, and one year the crime rate of the city doubles and the number of people who attend church also doubles, what can you say about what's going on in that city? A lot of people would say that the new church goers are committing crimes. In fact, wouldn't it be easier if you noticed that the population of the city doubled as well? Therefore, really nothing ratio-wise changed. There were twice as many church goers and twice as many crimes committed because the population doubled.

Just because two things happen at the same time surely does not mean that they caused one another. Being stumped for that moment and not knowing what could have caused those two things to go up at the same time really drove home the point that this third cause is always out there and quite common. Two things that seem to be dependent on each other are actually both caused by a third thing - appears all the time logically. I believe that this serendipity feelings and pattern-finding feeling is yet another effect of that third cause discovery that third causes are probably much more common than we think they are.

Do not confuse correlation with causation

All the cool shit in the world that's the smartest shit in the world, you don't understand, because it's the smartest shit in the world. It takes people a lifetime of dedication and education to even get to understanding the shit that's already out there to have the hopes of building on top of it. It is an unfortunate consequence of confusing causation with correlation that made up bullshit that has no value at all, is also insanely complex. Unfortunately therefore, you are not able to efficiently use the complexity of a topic to let you know whether it is accurate or whether you should learn about it, or care about it. A lot of people take something that's hard to understand, like quantum physics, and try to use it outside of the realm where it is useful and apply to emotions or feelings or business.

Reasoning

Critical thinking means judgmental thinking

Critical thinking isn't called critical because it's required, it just means judgmental. This is the danger of words that have two meanings that are very different. For instance, critical condition versus *It's critical that you do a thing.*

How to catch Fraudulent statistics

"Benford's law: In any collection of statistics, a given statistic has roughly a 30% chance of starting with the digit 1."

Richard's comment: That's how you can catch fraudulent numbers being generated by people instead of reality.

From <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_eponymous_laws>

This is how you catch fakers of data.

Benford's law of controversy: Passion is inversely proportional to the amount of real information available.

Avoid The Downsides to having just one innacurate idea

The downside to having one inaccurate idea is, if you believe that the unborn have rights, it is pretty justifiable to go kill abortionists. It fucking sucks! I don't really know of a way to disprove that idea. It's better to not have the wrong idea in the first place. Unborn people are not people. It's

not everyone else's job to use all of their sperm and eggs to make you happy Mr. Advisor guy. That guy just has to understand that the unborn aren't people and do not have rights, and even if they did have rights and they were being abridged, killing other people who have already been born isn't the right solution. *Christopher Hitchens* quoted someone else saying that *For bad men to do bad things is quite simple, but to get a good man to do bad things, you really need religion*.

Understanding

Rational Understanding- Peter Donnelly statistics demo

Peter Donnelly statistics demo: https://therationalunderstanding.wordpress.com/2008/04/15/peter-donnelly%E2%80%99s-fooled-by-statistics/

Calibrate your estimate on what you understand properly

The point being, if you are very good at knowing things, but very bad in your estimates at what you understand or don't understand properly, you will harm yourself; you will stop studying things that you should have studied more and you will miseducate the world. On the other hand, if you're super good at knowing what you know and what you don't know, you'll probably actually also harm yourself because you'll be afraid to say anything ever, because you're only comfortable speaking with an unreasonable degree of specificity. You might be the kind of guy who's incapable of suggesting what book someone reads because you're deciding whether knowledge can even exist? How do we know what we really know? Are we really just the simulation? You're too smart for your own good. You've become ineffective.

Why is it that so much of the popular culture is influenced and created by those that put their balls in their hands, get the job done and are willing to be wrong? Because it's so important that you'd be better off getting an 80% right and eating shit 20% of the time than making no impact in the world, only saying one thing once ever in your whole life, but being right about it. Unfortunately, everyone else already knew that because the guys that were 80% right already said it 50 times before you got around to it.

Increasing your understanding removes limiting beliefs

The funny thing is, when you don't understand an idea good enough, you think you know everything. Lots of 20-year olds think they know everything. One time, when I was twenty, I thought I didn't have any limiting beliefs. Turns out, my limiting belief was that I thought I didn't have any limiting beliefs, and if I searched harder, I had the belief that being chubby was okay.

Your capacity to understand complex things; The truly hardest take dedication/time/emotion

In a world where intelligences and interests fit on a nice bell curve, the vast majority of people don't even have the capacity to understand the hardest things. Of those that do, the truly hardest things take more than capacity, they take the dedication of time and emotion to excel at. You

can't be too good at too many things, you run out of time, you really only have time to be a master of a few things. Thus, the vast majority of people will have many false beliefs about many things, not because they're stupid, or malicious, but because life is hard. When you have to hand over your decision making to experts, because they're the only ones with a hope of being right, then whether you are correct or not basically comes down to whether you chose to believe the right expert or not. This is a choice that the super intelligent must make very similar to those less intelligent, we all must defer to the experts on tons and tons of things every day.

Capture the prerequisites for bigger and better understanding

The ability for someone to understand a great idea unfortunately is tied to the ability to have created the idea on their own. Similar to the way that burgers can't get much better because were limited by our taste buds, it's the same reason that you can share something amazing with them, but they don't have the tools to understand why they should be amazed.

Human Intellect has not changed, knowledge transfer has just increased in quality

It sucks when you read reports and documents from 100 or 1000 years ago and you could believe they were written today. The people of the time had such sharp minds and such thinking abilities that it's a tragedy they didn't have access to the same tools and resources we have today. If the biologists are right, the capacity of the human mind hasn't really increased very much at all in the couple of thousand years since English and cities have existed. It's quite a wonder to believe that what separates us from them isn't that we are better people, but that we have stored so much energy in knowledge passed down from generation to generation that the lives we live today are massively better than the lives they lived, and it's not because we are smarter!

Analogies are the best tools for understanding - Use them!

It is said that analogy is the most powerful of all learning tools. Analogy is where you take new ideas and show how they're just like other things; glove is to hand like sock is to foot, square is to cube like circle is to cylinder.

Regardless of all those differences, because you understand the concept of a door, you can really quickly understand and operate all of these, why? Because analogies are awesome. They're all different in ways that don't really matter, and similar in the ways that they need to be for you to kick ass at them. By the way, it's common to see analogies as large components of IQ tests. Therefore, if finding and using analogies is something you can get better at, then you will show a heightened IQ score on many IQ tests. You'll probably be better off with a heightened understanding of the world, than yet another test score to brag about, but it's a free bonus to an otherwise already awesome behavior.

The power of analogy; the more you understand about the world in one area, the more you understand about the world in all the other areas, as long as you learn how to apply the analogy, as long as you learn how to apply the framework somewhere else. It may not increase what they call in the study of intelligence, your *Big G*, your general intelligence, how well you do on an IQ test, but you can have *Big G* without ever learning a language. You can have Big G in intelligence without ever learning how to do anything.

Less complicated ways that lead to understanding

If you want to learn how to speed read and speed understand, then you're studying common patterns that you can apply other places to employ the power of analogy. You're using tools that shift the words in front of your eyes so that you don't have to move your eyes. Those things are proven to work. Everything else that you study to try and "teach you to speed read," they actually just make you think you understand more, but in reality you're smoking through the pages reading a lot faster, not absorbing a lot faster, basically throwing more information in the garbage, but at the end of throwing all that information in the garbage, you think you know better than you did. Then, they test it. I've said it again and I'll say it here now, the world does not need speed reading. The world needs *speed understanding*. Since understanding isn't something that happens better faster, increasing the speed at which we understand things isn't the right solution. Doing an inferior method of understanding faster is crap compared to doing a better way of understanding, which is faster, not because you're doing it faster, but faster because it is a better analogy, a better example, a simpler, less complicated way of understanding a thing.

I'll give an example. If you say that the burden of proof lies with the person that makes the outrageous statement, well that's one way of understanding, that's a good way to understand the world. The simpler thing is more likely to be accurate than the more complex thing, because it involves less moving parts to make it happen. If both of those two explanations, the more complicated and the less complicated one, both accurately define the way a thing can happen, the less complicated one's more likely. It's a little bit esoteric, it's a little bit hard to understand.

Another guy comes along, *Bertrand Russell*, and he has a funny little saying called *Bertrand's tea kettle*. What's that? He says, listen. I could say that between us and the moon, or us and the sun, orbiting, is a tea kettle. And if you can't disprove that, then we'll just have to take my assumption that it exists. It's an example of proof through absurdity

I'm not sure how this fits, but you could say it's the *power of analogy*. When I said that when you learn martial arts that there are certain moves where you miss a couple frames, you're weak from a couple frames. You would only know about how many frames a move costs you if you've studied fighting video games. When you design such game and you give each character a certain set of moves that he can do, it's like a giant

abstraction on top of the game *Rock-paper-scissors*; this move beats that move, and then you've got timing relationships. If you try to charge up one move, then you're weak for another one for this period of time. You can, though, bate someone to try and take advantage of that weakens, and then take another action to counter it.

Understanding that executing ideas or businesses or punches or kicks, they take an amount of time to execute. They, unless you're a perfect fighter, people can tell through your stance, timing and what you do with your eyes and where you put your weight, what you might throw. This is because they've seen it before. Whatever decisions you make in life - education, fighting, you're going to have down time, you're going to be telegraphing your intention to people that are watching. Let's say you want to bid on a couch, and you tell everyone in the room what you're willing to pay. You just kind of screwed yourself on the price. Let's say you want to buy one whole street of real estate to go tear the things down and build a bigger piece of real estate, and you don't hide the fact that you're buying up piece by piece. If one of the people finds out that that's what you're trying to do, they can ask you for a whole crap load more than their house would be by itself, because their house is now a requirement for you to complete your set that you've already invested so much into. They can charge you double or triple the market value of their house, because you need it and it's worth the double or triple to you, solely because they were aware of your intention.

Visual Diagrams for understanding can hurt you

The reasons that the vast majority of things that you learn in school and work with and use in your day-to- day life, you never end up referencing in some cool geometric, like formula or intelligence. If you're watching your macros as a guy that works out, do you actually reference the food pyramid, never you have the macros just memorized. If you're doing math, do you ever go back and look at the unit circle to decide how to do your calculus - fucking never. These contrivances of people thinking that some triangle or pyramid might add to people's understanding in my belief hurts people's understanding

Using the wrong visualisations screws up our understanding of ideas

Serial Pyramid Pillars Totem pole instead of pyramids. Pyramids indicate volume difference. <TJ-XX - Could use an example about Maslow's, unless that's already somewhere>

We are pattern finding machines - Let's make use of it

We create patterns - that's what music is, that's what language is. When a man makes love to a woman, and that woman has a beautiful child, that's a new pattern that we created, not totally consciously. Maybe parts of it, but we choose those traits, we chose that time, we chose to give ourselves fully to another person. That's where cool people like us come from. We're built to absorb, process and create virtual realities that may come true in our head. That's what dreaming is, that's what imagination

is, that what play is. It is us, getting the best real world practice we can get, without greatly endangering our lives. If you want to have the virtual, *I'm being chased by a killer* - experience, you need only wait. It happens a couple of dreams that you'll remember a year. I'm not sure the rate that you get to have your *escape the killer* - dreams, but they're useful. If ever one day a killer's actually chasing you, you will do slightly better, because you've already pre-calculated some shit that guy might do, and some shit that you might do. We arrive at those paths, quicker. It's pre-computation. I think it's where *Déjà-vu* comes from. I think when you have a *Déjà-vu*, you accidentally have something happen in your real life, something that you pre-complied in your sleep or in your free time, or you subconsciously saw in a film or subconsciously imagined happened to somebody else and then it just brought back that memory of *Oh fuck, I've seen this before!*

How religions emerge

If you put a kid on an island, he'll invent his own religion

If you take a kid, as soon as he's born, you put it and a robot on an island, the robot feeds it until it can handle life on its own, never talks to it, never teaches it anything, that kid is going to find patterns. This is because pattern finding is useful, and those patterns will probably turn into stories. If it ever meets another person, it will tell those stories, and then the opportunity for collectivism and collective benefit and teamwork will exist. The people that believe the same stories will group together and outperform people that don't believe the same shared fictions. Thus, it's not that religions are inherited, it's that religions, in isolation, would emerge for the same profitable reasons that they always have, because pattern recognition is useful, memory and therefore storytelling is useful, and working together is useful. Learning and transmitting knowledge to another person, is done through story - the story of imaginary futures.

Instructing is taking a pattern found to work, and sticking it in someone else's head

What is instructing? If you imagine a world that doesn't actually exist and we just stick it in your head, then in that other alternate world that you can say is current or past, whatever, it doesn't abide by the rules of time because it doesn't really exist. It only exists in your mind.

That same pattern finding, storytelling and collective profit will cause religions to emerge, because the access time and processing required to generate a fucked up story that is cool to tell, cool to share, and cool to collect behind, is a much lower bar and standard than something that we haven't even been able to find with all of our advanced technology, which is a cool, compelling, easy to tell, to collect behind, and factually, scientifically accurate and true

story. We've got a lot of cool stories everyone believes. They're all wrong and mutually exclusive. Even if by chance, one of them was actually right, all the other ones are still wrong. The vast majority of religious and spiritual stories that everyone tells are wrong by their own definitions without any other research whatsoever, because they disagree with each other. Whichever one's right, all the other ones are wrong.

The threshold that pattern recognition, storytelling and collectivism emerges in the behavior of wrong beliefs is like a hundred times lower than something we've not even found yet. Science hasn't become a religion at all. Nobody goes to science school on Sunday and prays to the Science God and bangs only other science-following chicks. It's not a thing. That's why even if you find something that works, if you don't have all the other cool stories and side benefits to believing it, it can't compete with religions.

I guess the closest we have to that is Judaism, literally. You're a doctor, you're a scientist, okay, we're cool with you hooking up with our daughter. Not a doctor? Eh, not a lawyer? Maybe you're not what we want for our daughter. Culturally, the Jewish people reward saving, investment, learning. Other cultures reward adventure, craziness, drinking, partying, shit that is the opposite of investment. You're investing in the death of your liver, which isn't really a good investment. What did your liver ever do to you? Except trying to keep you healthy.

My point is, emergent properties exist, and they're not often inherited. They would re-execute in a very similar form on their own, because they pay profits, and the threshold of things that have to align in order for them to emerge is so vastly lower than the other things that we're trying to force to emerge by design. This is why if you got rid of all the religions in the world, they would just reappear in slightly different forms, because they provide a competitive advantage to their followers.

The set of things that you could misunderstand, the set of ways that you could misunderstand a thing, is nearly infinite compared to the very small set of ways that you could actually understand the way that it really is. And the way that it is really, wildly not, the million other ways that it could be, but isn't.

Don't fall for correlation causation fallacy, improve your understanding and reasoning

The older you get, the more things you see and have seen, the easier it is for you to make connections. As a result, the easier it is for you to see connections where they don't really exist, or where they do exist, they don't exist in the way that you wish they did. You find some interesting

coincidence. Let's say you Google one topic, and then you're going through the day and you Google something else, and then those two things somehow magically both relate to a third thing. What you'll find more often than not is that the reason that those two seemingly so distantly related topics actually relate is all because of you – the thing that influenced the first result, the thing that influenced the second result, and the thing that influenced you - were all quite popular and were pre-selected for popularity.

In summary, what you'll find is that you'll have more of these feelings of serendipity the more you use Google or voice recognition. I had a friend that one time, and she spoke tongues into her phone and her phone gave her very interesting, accurate results because she didn't realize that the phone didn't have a choice. The phone was going to give the best guess no matter what, and the best guess is always going to give you good results. I, to teach her the error of her ways, the error that she thought that there was meaning coming from the phone even though she was speaking gibberish into it, I spoke gibberish into it, and it also gave me meaningful results, because it had no choice but to give meaningful results. We were the ones that tried to pretend that the meaning came from what we said. In reality, the meaning came from random chance. Some meaning had to be output, and we were the ones making the connection between those two meanings – the gibberish being spoken into the phone and the interesting, unique outcome coming out the other side. Therefore, the more intelligent you are and the better story teller you are, the more connections you can make, the more believable you can make these false correlations that have no causation.

Common human misconceptions that distort understanding

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pareidolia Pattern recognition, making faces out of landscapes and the fronts of cars. in photography dCe of mountain making faces out of landscapes

Knowing Thyself

Do not assume the world is as wise as you are

It's hard to know reality, could you predict ISIS? You must not assume the world is as wise as you, it's not.

Know what you know, and what you don't. Know the same of others.

I think *the Monty Hall problem* and the statistics example in that ted talk I saw regarding rolling a dice I think, where everyone answers it wrong are very telling (xx WHAT TED TALK?). if everyone is working on wrong data and or everyone is making the wrong decisions consistently, you can't really expect great output from persons under that influence, at least in regards to that material. There's merit in tying that lack of knowledge in to understanding oneself and having some humility.

Find out your goals and the things in life that motivate you

A lot of times being a good teacher doesn't mean that you are a good do-er, and vice versa. They are different skillsets, being able to do something

and being subconsciously competent at it doesn't make you a good teacher. Being a good teacher requires pedagogic skills that have very little to do with, for instance, swimming, and that's why even if you're an Olympic winner, you might make a shitty coach. By definition subconscious competence means you are quite probably a shit teacher about it, because it's subconscious to you! Because you don't know why you're good at racecar driving, you don't know why you're good at stick, you don't know why you are a good speaker, and to know those things would be an entirely different skillset. Self-knowledge and self-awareness, and proper education and motivation is an entirely separate domain, and taught as such from being a good business man, or being a good basketball player. A coach that can help you meet goals, and refine your objectives, and find the golden moving feeling that motivates you in a thing, it works in a lot of places. If you can sell one thing, you can sell anything. Maybe it was compelled when they saw someone winning a competition, maybe they could feel it when they felt jealous that someone else was achieving something.

Memory

- The organizing of all important things
  - The world is a super complicated place. You can't listen to all the songs at once, even radios listen to only a few stations at a time. We have such a hard time keeping ideas in our minds that we even split 10 digit phone numbers into two sets.

    That's why it helps to keep things in easy to remember groups, and then nest the groups in each other, deeper and deeper. Remember that overly simple understanding is more dangerous than overly complex. Overly complex might take a long time to digest, but overly simply and you might never discover you were missing important parts of understanding stuff they used to think back when we didn't know as much about the world. Just these types of images and phrenology images, this secondary consciousness shit is stuff we just learned rather recently.

    More at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secondary_consciousness
- The Art of memory
  - More at:
    - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Art_of_memory
    - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rhetorica_ad_Herennium
- Method of loci for memory enhancement; Use visualisations
  - More at: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Method_of_loci
- Dont become a memorizing machine or rely on your memory
  - It's funny when I tell you that you shouldn't become a memorizing machine because we have phones, computers and other people that do that very least important of all metal abilities. At least, past the working memory. Working memory, you need it to build new ideas in your head, but actually memory of facts and figures and things like that, that you don't need to instantly have. Working memory, that memory is crap
- Mnemonic technique - USE IT

When you interrogate people with good memories, or that have exception reasoning abilities, you find these common patterns of brain usage that are not chemical. They are conscience decisions to use your brain in a certain way, and then after you use it that way enough, you're just used to using it that way. Mnemonic technique exists, chunking exists. Making up funny little sayings with the first letter as something you want to remember, *acronyms*, they work. Mary Jane eats many jam sandwiches under Ned's porch, that's the planets in order of the sun. If it is true, that the smartest, most effective, most bad ass, non-idiot savant fucking people, all have little fun tricks and shortcuts they use to make their mind work better. Wouldn't that be a good thing to teach people. Wouldn't that be a good thing to teach people? Wouldn't that be something that could pay dividends forever more? I really think it would be. What do you know, mnemonic technique has existed for thousands of years

Using mnemonic technique lets you now what's important so you can take action

A *mnemonic technique* that I use is putting shit in alphabetical order when I meet people. If I meet some new people, I memorize their names by putting them in my mind and preferably in the real world in the order of their names. A mnemonic technique is knowing, and a mnemonic technique is having desire. If you have desire, it instantly lets you know what is important and what is not. Knowing what is important, makes your memory happy as fuck. Super easy to remember what you care about! If you love sports, it's super easy to remember stats. If you love gadgets, it's super easy to remember stats. If you love books, it's super easy to remember a thing you read in a book. People love to remember shit that interests them. If you are passionless and driveless, and have no desires, well then, how is your brain supposed to know what to put a big ass red flag next to, to remember? How is it supposed to know what's important to you, if you don't tell it, if you don't mention it, if you don't let it feel it?

Using mnemonic techniques to make better sense and reduce mental overhead

As I mentioned earlier, the world does not need speed reading, it needs understanding. Speed reading is by definition the opposite of understanding. You're increasing the rate of the data transfer and decreasing the horse power available to organize and understand the data; very likely, what you're doing is wasting your fucking time. Now, if you want to get a book over with really quick, you can skip the speed reading and just look at the table of contents and pretend that you learn something from that.

Here's the problem, for some reason, most people's table of contents are fucking useless! I don't know who invented this in books lately, where you try and make the table of contents so vague so as to be only useful for someone that has actually completed reading the whole book so that they can translate your shitty vague chapter title into something actually meaningful. That sir, I hope, does not follow the guidelines of good style issued by the associated press, and I hope it doesn't also issue the good

elements of styles advertised by Strunk & White. One of the most prescribed for reading books in the college syllabuses of the world, it's like number three or four most commonly required reading material in the syllabus of easily digitized and search colleges. Why do I mention this to you? One, for you guys out there writing, please stop wasting people's time with fake tables of contents that don't describe the contents. That's like going to a supermarket and then no longer categorizing things by what they really are, and randomizing where things go. Oh, you want Colgate toothpaste? It's next to the milk. Or, Crest toothpaste! It's hidden inside the toilet cleaner section. Wouldn't that suck? Good categorization, good description and good mnemonic technique is what human beings need to make sense of this ever more complicated and changing world.

Invent more words to spread better understanding

Inventing words is cool. It's one of those things where it's hard to get traction at first and once you do get the traction, you get explosive results. It's like a diet. If your new diet doesn't become popular, you don't have much impact, but if your diet does become popular, holy shit, you're going to change the eating habits of a huge portion of the planet for the period of time where that little fad diet was fad full. That's a funny word, *fad full*. Thus, if you coin new terms and have the balls and the influence to get them to stick, you bring into the global consciousness an easier path to execution for that thing. For instance, there was a time where the term *branding* didn't exist, and then people figured out that it was something that worked, it was good to do. They assigned it a word and holy shit, the branding thing is now all over the place.

You're going to find that with all kinds of human behavior. Like, feeling the burn. What's feeling the burn? Oh, that's when you work out real hard and your muscles feel like their hot. Oh, *feeling the burn!* That sounds good, I like that. Now, people are much more likely to work out until they feel a burn. So, by coining terms and pushing them to stickiness, if they can be made to be sticky. It helps to have them sound nice, feel nice, be imaginative, have those little hooks that make moronic techniques work. Then, you can for the rest of human endeavor and for the rest of human time as long as that word is used, influence greatly the actions that people take. I'm a big proponent of taking what is true and commonly known these days, but no one fucking uses it, because there's no word for the simple actionable action, and malign a word for it in the hopes that people then actually do the thing they know of. Everyone knows that science exists, but no one god damn does it. If we can start to take little chunks of usefulness out of it, which is science, then people can get the advantages of doing them.

A way to look at life choices

It's interesting to me that it seems like I learned through hearing this term *frames*. How many frames it costs you to try and use a move in a game? With that understanding, I was able to extrapolate it to business and purchasing, and to choices that you make in your life, and to other systems that have feedback, that change based on what you do, just like

the fighting game. There's another person looking at the same screen you're looking at, who's trying to figure out what you're going to do, why you're going to do it, anticipate you, manipulate you, and win. In a fighting game, it's very clear what the goal is: to get rid of the other guy's health bar. You win. You have health, he doesn't have health. You win the round, win all the rounds. In the real world, it becomes slightly less clear, because everyone's got different goals. Some people want to be loved, some people want to have adventure, some people want to have all the power they can have. Some people just want to be at peace. Some people don't want to be here at all, they can't wait to get off this trip. They kill themselves. Everyone in this world has a completely different set of responses that are kind of hard to predict, hard-ish.

I love it in life when things are similar to something else, because if you understand the first thing, you now nearly instantly understand the next things, and all other things like it that you ever see again. Take doors, for instance. Every single door that you meet is very different from the last. Some push open, some pull, and some are bi-curious. Some are even split in the middle and just the top can be opened, some are revolving doors. They're made of wood, glass, metal, you name it. They even lock in all kinds of different ways, a safe door is probably one of the coolest looking doors.

Make cool sayings to ease understanding of ideas & name patterns

You can find the disappearing middle for a logical fallacy. All these examples we have of parable and easy to understand sayings, makes understanding complicated stuff a hell of a lot easier, because if you didn't have those cool sayings, you might never understand the idea. Some things are hard to understand.

When you name a pattern, it's easier to recognize it and use it in the future.

Anthropomorphizing ideas is effective

I like to turn a lot of ideas into people, because people are used to dealing with people.

Thinking

Getting the best out of your brain processing power

I wanted to tell you about this specific subreddit (a discussion forum to a specific subject on reddit.com) called *shower thoughts*, and why they're important. I ended up giving dissertation on the effects of groups collaborating and the evolution of their environments on the Internet.

Shower thoughts - how odd is it, that the most resonant name for the idea of unique things you think of is shower thoughts? Why is it that these things occur so often in the shower and so rarely in other places? My theory is that we have a whole lot of great processing power in these great brains of ours, and that somewhere along the line one of our great ancestors someone started running their brain constantly. Instead of only

solving problems that were readily apparent, they started solving problems that didn't exist yet. In the animal world, that is basically what play is, you're getting the training and practice that you need, without having to risk your life to get it. That's what imagination and deep thought is for human beings. It's our version of animal play, it's what makes us more effective when the time comes, and often we can even create the time where our creative thinking will pay off. It's not just the outcome from the environment, i.e. we change our environment to suit us more often that we change ourselves to match our environment. I know I'm not wiping my ass with leaves :)

Wouldn't it be a waste to take the massively powerful and creative machine that is the human mind, and have it only run half the time, instead of all the time? This is how I feel about meditation. If you have to take your engine apart after every race, or if you need to *clear your mind* or recharge your batteries, use your mind better in the first place? The concept that by forcefully overcoming my well-evolved desire to be curious and think constantly, and artificially imposing a blank and empty mind on myself, will somehow cause me to be more effective in my up time.

It's a similar, but perhaps smaller risk, with all this mind experimentation crap. Perhaps some cult really has all the answers you want, should you go try all the cults? How about all the religions? What about all the mind altering substances? I heard that *Francis Crick* was on LSD when he discovered DNA. If I had to bet my life, I'm going to tell you that the vast majority of discoveries have been made by people not on LSD. Perhaps LSD will change your perspective on life, and perhaps you will see a thing in a way you never would have any other way. Perhaps it would work out well for you, or not. Perhaps you'll get the same results the vast majority of all other drug users are getting, a change in feeling and perception, without a big increase in performance. It's probably unlikely that you would happen to run into a cult of really drugged up dudes crushing it in the business world or crushing it in the stock market etc.

Problem Solving

Use your Intelligence to overcome human problems

Modern human adaption using intelligence

How could we reconcile this tragedy of being ideally suited for the world that no longer exists? Do you know how we can best use our intellect to overcome these problems in the same way as we did to surmount all the other problems the humanity was facing? For the last hundred thousand years a life for a human being has been brutal, short and painful, there was no need for you to leave your neighborhood, learn new languages and find out why the hell something happened. Your teeth fell out, and there were all kinds of bad things, now it's better.

Don't solve problems you don't have

Don’t solve problems you don’t have. Every problem you solve that you don’t have means it’s a fucking problem you ignored that you *do* have. Take the limited time that you have and spend it on what *is* here and what actually matters. Don’t be a fucking philosopher that learns how to solve the world’s problems that aren’t yours.

Solve problems and adjust your frustration

The whole world is spending all their money to learn something. The reason I got on that tangent was, why is that you can make money fixing people’s phones, why is it that they don’t just spend the hours to do it themselves? Because their brains have been programmed to disengage in activity because that activity might be very valueless compared to some other activity. They get frustrated very quickly, they get frustrated very easily, because 1,000 years ago, 10,000 years ago when the Earth’s psychology was evolving and deciding which a better strategy was, some people got frustrated more easily, some people got frustrated less easily. Back then, in those environments, the problems that you had to solve were much simpler. You would see much more profit by getting frustrated easier, because an alternative, sideways solution would be much closer at hand. Your range of problem solving abilities was a lot wider when the complexity is reduced. Every layer of complexity that you include decreases your problem solving abilities. If you’re creating software, you can’t be off by a comma, you can’t be off by a period, you can’t be off by a bracket versus a parenthesis

Solve today's problems

Solving the problems of the future that doesn’t yet exist. What kind of clothes will I wear when I’m the world’s strongest man? Don’t waste your time, you are not going to be the world’s strongest man. Don’t be shopping for giant clothes. What are you going to do with all your riches? Which island are you going to buy? Don’t waste your time - you are not buying any islands. Solve today's problems, and the funny thing is that by solving today’s problems, you are more likely to end up with the *which island to buy problem,* but by solving that *which island to buy* problem now you won’t ever get the privilege of having the problem. A lot of times in life to be effective, basically all the time, you've got to solve the questions that are today’s problem to earn the right to have tomorrow’s problem. Worry about today’s problem. Don’t sacrifice today’s effectiveness for the dream of tomorrow’s effectiveness, because you could be optimizing for the wrong shit, you could be optimizing for a reality that will never happen.

Don't solve what others think are problems, but what you think are problems

I used to be of the mindset of profitability and solving problems for money, using other people’s problems to relief pin points, find profit and have correct action over incorrect action. The problem with that old style belief is that your paths in life are restricted to what other people think are their problems. The problem with what other people think are their problems is that they use their *beliefs* and their *values* to decide what their problems are and half the time, their beliefs and values are fucked up. Now, you’re trapped in doing fucked up things in your life, because

you think you're relieving pain, you think you're solving problems. You are, but those people shouldn't have had that pain and those problems if they used their brains better in the first place. Most people that want help with a problem, have actually misidentified what the actual problem is, and think they have a problem planning, when they have a problem doing.

A much higher, better use of your intellectual abilities, business talents, talents of any form are to not solve what other people think are problems, but to solve what *you* think are problems, assuming that you're smarter than they are and have better beliefs.

Don't live your life cockblocking people's ideas or solving the problems of others

Another good way to look at that is, if you ask people when what they would prefer when the car came out, they'd prefer a better horse. They don't want a fucking car, they wanted a better horse. The same happens if you ask the people that wrote the laws for airplanes, what kind of laws they should have. They have laws for boats, and because airplanes were so new, they had stupid laws that said you had to have lifeboats on the airplane. It took time for the law to catch up with reality.

My point is, don't live your life cock blocking other people's ideas. If you think about the problems of others, or judge the rightness or wrongness of their ideas, you are but a mirror of their thoughts. That causes you to neglect your own ideas and restrict your creativity, if you are only a reflection of someone or something. Let them react to you by advertising your own truth instead of negating their statements and falling into their framing of the world. Don't live your life as a cock blocker of ideas and don't live your life as a problem solver of other people's problems, because you will be restricted by what problems they think matter and what they're aware of.

Solve the problems people are unaware of

You think Steve Jobs invented the iPhone because people were dying for something that didn't have any buttons? No, they would have probably told you that things without buttons were stupid. How would you dial it in the dark? How would you dial it if the screen got wet? And so on. Now, everything that we have that's the best of class device has one, two or three buttons and no more. You would have never gotten to that conclusion and created that invention if you were focused on solving other people's problems that they were aware of. You need to be focused on the problems that they're unaware of. That means creative individual production and thought, not mindless group think focused by the constraints of the idiots of the world that you're forced to interact with.

Troubleshooting is hard, you need to acquire experience solving real world problems

Lots of people don't know much of shit about problem solving, or how easy it is to make the wrong call on the solution to a problem, because they haven't actually had much experience solving real world problems. In the real world, when you encounter a problem,

that problem could be caused by 5-10 different things. Even when you go one by one and try to eliminate the potential causes, you run into fun ones, where things fail only some of the time, but work other times, *intermittence* guess you could call them. Another possibility is that you get two intermittent problems at the same time, so when you implement a fix, it works sometimes and not others. Or, the solution to your original problem causes a new one, or the test you just did to see if your guess was right, actually was right, but you can't tell because you just broke something else during the test. Now, you actually have two broken things if you revert your fix.

Intermittant problems

There's three things worse than an intermittent problem when you're trouble shooting, because what would solve the problem, doesn't. Therefore you think it's not a solution because the normal failure state isn't occurring when you're trying to implement that solution.

Let's get a better understanding on troubleshooting the human body

If you want to know how poorly we understand what's going on in the human body, guess how they test to see how much pain you're in? They literally put a picture of a drawn face of a facial expression and then they assume that that facial expression equals your facial expression. Therefore, you're in whatever amount of pain the drawing is in. That is pretty sad.

It's probably a better way with FMRI *(Functional magnetic resonance imaging),* but I do know that this is a lot cheaper, and easier, and faster to use, than an FMRI.

Fixing things in the real world can actually be pretty tough. All these complicated issues I'm telling you about are actually easy, because at least you have a decent list in your mind that is finite of how many potential causes for the failure there could really be. What do you do when you don't even understand the system well enough to know the complete list of ways that the thing could be broken? This is where we are at with the human body. We can barely tell what is going on in there, we have a pitiful understanding of what really happens inside cells, and for the most part, we are just a giant organization of lots of cells. Think about how limited our diagnostic tools are to try and even guess what's going on. We can stick a stethoscope on your chest and listen to your heart for a little bit, we can try to hear the sound your lungs make when breathing, we can check your pulse rate and your blood pressure at a single instance in time. This is definitely not rocket science. Maybe we can extend the amount of time we measure and the rate we sample, maybe that is a little better. Now, what are all the things we can't see in real time? Hormone levels, oxygen levels, blood composition, how many different kinds of cells are in there, and so on. There's really not too much we can tell in a reasonable time frame at all, and most of it requires drawing blood, which puts extra load on your body, because you need to replace that blood. You can only

do so much of that. Literally some of our required diagnostics require us shoving fingers or overly large cameras up your ass.

If having another person's fingers up your ass isn't your kind of party, it's probably a good indication that our tools for telling what's going on in a patient's body are pretty shitty, pardon the pun.

If you've not banged your head against the wall for a couple years solving hard problems, your suggestions for solutions might be pretty poor.

Mind maps suck

Tony Buzan and the creating of the concept of the mind map and trying to profit off it - it was an idea of a guy who built an idea that sucks and doesn't work and makes the world a worse place, but somehow gives you the hope that it will work out and waste a lot of people's time. Xx Explain more about mind map

Mind mapping is garbage

If it was a good way to organize data, books would come as fold out mind map posters. It really sucks. Because nature is disorganized doesn't mean disorganization is a goal. It's the opposite of organization. If you thought spitting out ideas linked to other ideas in a star shaped format was good, because it was "organic" then why wouldn't you make it 3 dimensional and rotatable like the real world? Or perhaps have a floor like the real world? Since you like nature so much, hell lets have wild animals piss on your mind map, and let a hurricane blow it apart too.
Ever try to find a house in a neighborhood with streets that are organic and curved instead of lines in a grid? It's a nightmare. Straight lines beat "organic" squiggly lines.

Decisions

Decision

Knowing lots of things is very different from being able to make good decisions about things. You could say that knowing how to make good decisions should be the first thing you learn, and know, for it will greatly enhance your performance on all other things you will ever learn. Just like learning to read and speak are great first steps down the path of knowledge, so should learning to think well be the third step just after speaking and reading.

Flip a coin, if you feel the urge to flip it again, you've already decided.

From <https://www.reddit.com/r/LifeProTips/comments/56tw05/lpt_if_you_ever_have_to_make_a_decision_between/>

Fairness division

https://priceonomics.com/how-do-mathematicians-cut-cake/

Analysis paralysis

If you want to chop down a forest, you don't stare at it trying to figure out how all the trees are related to each other, and putting them in order. You just walk up to the first tree that you want to cut down, and start chopping. There's a joy in not understanding an entire problem, and just getting to work. Like writing a book. It would be harder to predict what the book would look like, than it would be to just write the book. Making accurate

predictions is really hard. Thus, when a problem is complicated enough, you can be better off just doing the things you know you need to do no matter what, and while you're doing them, your subconscious will be working on guessing what the future will look like.

Most people don't have an understanding problem, they have a motivation problem. They think their understanding and their plans aren't good enough, so they don't do them, not knowing that many of the best things in the world started with terrible plans, and just changed along the way into something great. In business they call it pivoting. When your first plan doesn't work, you do a different plan.

This is similar to the pottery teacher who split her class into two. One half of the class would be graded on a single piece at the end of the semester and the other half of the class would just be graded by the pound. It was an experiment showing the difference between being very productive, and being thoughtful, and then just a burst of productive much later on. The quality of the people that produced by the pound was better than the quality of the people that thought a lot and built a single work.

Building things and evolving them beats thinking too much, and building at the last minute, if ever.

Avoid Fallacies

Russel's Teapot. Clarity can be achieved in different ways

Russel's Teapot is proof that even if something is already present in the logical canon and education, that a great and visual analogy relying on absurdity can be so useful and widely quoted as to become the primary name and reference for the example. Clarity and brevity matter greatly in all things of the mind. It's basically an easier to understand version of Argument from ignorance.

More at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russell%27s_teapot
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argument_from_ignorance

Proximity Fallacy, Avoid being mislead

There’s this logical fallacy of a thing near a thing gets influenced by the thing. Michael Jordan wears Nike´s, therefore he's associated with Nike´s. He´s great, therefore Nike´s must be great. That´s because human beings' brains don´t work that great. I can list you some other great people associated with some bullshit things, and just because someone is associated with a thing doesn´t mean that thing is rubbed off on them. The reason I mention this is because it's a tactic of association by proximity, which is something we're going to try and do by helping our readers achieve everything that they want in life and trying to get them to take their own survival into their own hands, which is not something they would have bought a book on from the get-go.

Descriptive names for fallacies are useful for future avoidance

Lots of fallacies have easy to remember and useful names, for instance, the *disappearing middle*, the *slippery slope*, the *straw man*. You have an idea.

It’s really hard to make use of the framing fallacy, because you don’t know when to apply it. If you know the framing fallacy exists when you use framing to make two things that are equal seem different, you only know that the fallacy exists, if you

already know that the two things are fucking equal. If you don't know the two things are equal, because you're already having the fallacy executed upon you, they seem wildly different. You can't make use of knowing about the fallacy, because you never know when to trigger your knowledge of it existing, because you would only know by seeing the quality of two things, and you can't judge their quality without already knowing that you are in the fallacy. Basically, because you're in the shit, you can't tell you're in the shit.

Much of the fallacy of the unqualified percentage. I think people don't understand how shitty increased crime is unless you get them to see it linearly. You say, "Listen, because the crime rate is this in this place, or as it is here, 100 or 200 or 100,000 extra people have to get fucked because of that." Then, you show the linear actual fucking that occurs instead of just saying some percentage that doesn't have a face.

Do not let mental illusions mislead you

I've not seen this one described before

Dissymmetry of 10bto 100 to 10 invest 1000 percent 90 percent Xx Clarification Small discount, large increase equivalence, unqualified percentage

Xx I think the language used should be "increases look larger than discounts", because look indicates the misperception.

If I make a new logical description for this common error of using a percentage when a flat rate may better serve, "30% discount is always equal to a 50% increase", well then you could use language that say "small discount equals large increase". No one really knows what framing is. It's like what you do to a door. It's a pretty big mental jump for people to understand the meta context of the way an argument is structured. Otherwise I already know all the fucking fallacies. I would have identified the fallacy on site. I'm pretty much a fallacy expert and I didn't notice the thing. Xx needs explaining

There should be two different fallacies that should be described. One is called *the unqualified percentage*. You say that you doubled your sales? So what? What does that mean qualitatively, you went from one to two? Don't tell me half the story, the misleading half. Oh, you know, we ramp up our customers 25% every month, but how many customers do you have? Two? The other fallacy is that discounts are always smaller than increases, and so a 33% discount is really a 50% increase in cost. 30% tax is really 50% increase in money that you have to make in order to cancel that out. So, the two fallacies are unqualified percentages, and discounts are smaller than increases.

If you want to see a place where they execute *the real world discounts are smaller than increases* fallacy of understanding numbers, it's the *buy two, get one half off*. When you do the math, you end up with two at a price of 150%, which means you paid 75% for each, which means you really got a 25% discount by buying twice what you needed. If you told anyone that "I'll give you a 25% discount if you buy double", they'd tell you to fuck yourself. But, if you abuse the frame, and use the larger discount, which is 50 instead of 25, they think that it's 50. They don't know that it's 25 because all you mentioned was 50. Most people can't do math so good in their head.

So the example of getting 50% off of buying two, instead of saying you get 25% off when you buy twice is the difference between making sales and not. You can feel the pull when you hear the pitch, and I believe that understanding that people only know the reference number that you've given them – it's called anchoring – and understanding that people don't understand discounts very well is a useful way to avoid getting ripped off and getting 25% off when you thought you were getting something around 50. If you're in the position of setting prices, well, I guess you found a new way to get your client's money.

Any time you're reading the news or some articles and you see something going up some 100% or down some percent, you must always ask, of what, to what, from what, to what? It's the unqualified percentage. It's also like Betteridge's law regarding headlines, where they say "Something could mean this," or "Is this really that?" and the answer to all those questions is usually no. If the thing was actually that, then that would be the headline, and the only time you use stupid headlines like that is when you don't have something better to write about.

Understanding *small discount, large increase equivalence & unqualified percentage*

I invented two terms, one is *small discount, large increase equivalence* where you get a 33% discount and it really means you would have paid 50% more had you not got the 33% off. The reason that exists is because sometimes percentages cause you to know less than you originally knew. In this instance it's just 33 dollars, you can either pay it or not pay it. The concept of the 33 dollars being a portion of something else, or a portion of some other thing doesn't really matter in this example. What matters is that it is 33 dollars, what doesn't matter so much is what portion that 33 dollars is; whether you take it off the before number, which is quite large, and then it makes the 33 seem quite small, or the after number which is smaller by exactly 33, and therefore is a larger percentage of that. I don't think you learn that much data by choosing to take your 33 and divide it by one or the other. The learning is that it is a common misconception that is going to happen when you take a flat number and try and make it a percentage for sometimes reasons that don't make sense. The second invention is the unqualified percentage. So you doubled your sales, yay! But from what? So you don't ever take someone's percent figure without the "of what". I call the fallacy the unqualified percentage, and that's basically because the percentage doesn't mean anything unless you qualify it with the "of what". Just like when you read a fucking headline; "This matters" - to whom and why do I care? You got to qualify it.

Fallacies

Correlation/causation fallacy

Social consensus illusion

Xx(is too hard to explain, [if this took less time to explain, then can use)

What you think other people think is massively biased by the couple people you know

http://www.technologyreview.com/view/538866/the-social-network-illusion-that-tricks-your-mind/

Paradoxes

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dempster%E2%80%93Shafer_theory#Example_producing_counter-intuitive_results_in_case_of_high_conflict

Fence post error

Paradoxes exist because of lack of understanding, Get better at measuring things

Paradoxes only seem like paradoxes because we poorly understand the real world, and sometimes our shortcuts lead us astray

Xx Meta: I don't think it would make it to the book but; Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle, the dual slit theory of wave versus particle light analysis. Basically people think that when you measure things at the subatomic level that you can measure them without changing them. Therefore, they think that the universe is conscious and therefore that conscious universe is measuring what your consciousness is doing. The conscious universe notices that your consciousness is trying to measure something, and whereas it normally would just allow two things to exist at the same time and not decide to be one place instead of another, as soon as you measure it, a decision gets made and goes to that single place. It's a misunderstanding; it first is an anthropomorphism trying to assign intention and group game theory, as to that thing that has a consciousness and is an individual actor with its own mode of operation. That shit is not conscious and it does not care what you do and the reason it changes when you measure it, is because at that level, all measurement involves fucking with the thing you are measuring. You cannot measure something without fucking with it, and if you can't stop fucking with it, then you are obviously influencing it. Therefore, it's not the universe that is influencing its decision, it is you through doing the measurement, which changes instead of the magical measurement which doesn't exist, which doesn't change. (xx too complicated, not understand :()

Biases

The smart get smarter, the dumb get dumber

If you're right, you'll get more right. If you're wrong, you'll get more wrong. Whoever gets to decide your confirmation bias first, gets to write your personality, kind of. You will vote and act like parents, most likely Socratic method.

More at: https://youtu.be/ZO-CGN78gdY?t=3m40s

Links

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_common_misconceptions
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cognitive_biases
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fallacies
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_memory_biases
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_paradoxes

Confirmation Bias

Survivorship Bias

Skills (xx some of this might go in power, maybe, because power is the skills section)

Subconscious competence

You can do things well that you don't understand how you're doing them. If you tell someone how to ride a bike, they'll always fall, because you didn't know that you lean away from a turn before you turn or the bike falls over. You do it subconsciously.

Bash your head to greatness lol xx - Mind

Dreaming and competence

I wonder if people that are more subconsciously competent have the same dream over and over again, that helps them practice when they are not really practicing. http://nautil.us/blog/what-its-like-being-a-sudden-savant

Proximity isn't really power

Just because you're near something, doesn't mean you're good at it. You can be a racecar driver and it doesn't mean you know how to tune your engine. It also doesn't

mean you know how to lay pavement, and the same thing goes for any one of those other industries. The world is rather complex, and so in order to actually be good at any single thing these days, you kind of have to be good at that thing, and being good at things related to it just won't cut it. Software developers are all the time beating their head against the wall trying to figure out how to get their goddamn graphics card to work, because it's a totally different skill set. Writing code and then forcing NVIDIAs dog shit drivers to work properly are two different skill sets.

Output(xx much of this goes in respect)

Meta content (can mine)

Warren Buffet

Location

Warren Buffett & Bill Gates: On Success
University of Washington's Husky Union on July 20, 1998.

From <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnZc4VpSn1Q>

How funny is it that buffet uses the same analogy I due with intelligence being horsepower, that's pretty cool

https://youtu.be/fnZc4VpSn1Q?t=419

He says that efficiency is rationality, it's how much output you get out of the power you've got. (like drivetrain loss basically)

He is all about rationality in this talk

His talk

Pick out someone you admire out of the audience and write down why you admire them, don't name yourself lol

Now pick out the one that you can stand the least out of the whole group, and put down the qualities that turn you off about that person, you'll find that the qualities that you admire are ones that you can make your own with a little practice. Summary

The habits you will have in 20 years are the habits that you build today. It's all about rationality. Emulate the trains of those around you that you respect, and avoid those traits of those people you shun. If you don't' get where you want to go, it's not because the world kept you down, it's because you got in your own way. His car IQ analogy only contained efficiency and power, nothing about steering, traction, direction, etc.

Quotes

Success is getting what you want and happiness is wanting what you get

"the chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to be broken"

You ought to be happy where you're working, don't save up sex for your old age and don't stay in things that suck for long at all. (not directly quoted)

"Why would you marry for money if you're already rich", turn down good business deals if the people you would have to work with make your stomach churn.

He seems very concerned with who he has to work with.

"If you tell me who your heroes are I can tell you how you'll turn out"

None of warrens heroes have let him down "my dad, my wife, Ben Graham at Colombia"

Coursera learning how to learn

Week 1: What is Learning?

Brain Facts:

- Cells of the nervous system are called neurons. Information from one neuron flows to another neuron across a synapse. Human brain has a million billion synapses.
- Your brain creates synapses whenever you learn something new. Sleeping helps "update" your brain cells. Literally.

Why do we procrastinate (scientifically):
Problem:
Learning a new thing or doing something you would rather not do can be stressing. This can cause anxiety at first. This activates the area associated with pain in the brain.
Your brain looks for a way to stop that negative feeling by switching your attention to something else more pleasant.
Solution:
The trick is to just start. Researchers discovered that not long after people start actually working out what they didn't like, that neuro-discomfort disappeared.
Remember that the better you get at something, the more enjoyable it can become.
Consider using the pomodoro technique.

Learning hard and abstract things:
The more abstract something is, the more important it is to practice to create and strengthen neural connections to bring the abstract ideas to reality for you.
Ex: You should practice a lot with the math vocabulary to understand it and recall it easier. [$\int_{\infty} e^{x}\,dx$, $k!(n-k)!$]

Summary of what I learnt:

1. There are two modes of thinking:
2. Focused mode: Concentrating on things that are usually familiar.
3. Diffused mode: A relaxed mode of thinking "your thoughts are free to wander".
4. When you don't desire doing/learning something, go through it and just start. The discomfort goes away and, in the long term, this will lead to satisfaction.
5. When you learn something new, make sure to take time to rest, then come back to it and recall what you learnt.
6. This is very important. Don't cram information in one day. This leads to inefficient learning. It's like building a wall without letting it dry.
7. Revisiting and practicing what you learn is important. Research shows that spaced repetition (repeating things after few days) is the best way to build and strengthen the synaptic connections.
8. Sleep is very important. It clears the metabolic toxins from the brain after a day of "brain use". It is best to sleep directly after learning new things.
9. It was shown that exercising and/or being in a rich social environment helps your brain produce new neurons. Don't lock yourself in your room. Stay active and spare time for exercise (including general physical activities) and friends daily.

Week 2: Chunking

Chunks:
Pieces of information, neuroscientifically speaking, bond together through use and meaning. They can get bigger and more complex, but at the same time, they are single easy to access items that can fit into the slot of the working memory.

- Chunking is the act of grouping concepts into compact packages of information that are easier for the mind to access.
- Example: If you understand and practice a math formula. You no longer will need to focus much to solve it like you did the first time. That's because your "formula chunk" got so abstracted into your brain that it can only take one slot of your working memory to solve it.

Turn off distractions. You want to use all the four slots of your working memory when studying. Learning will be inefficient if some of those slots are connected to something else.

You have to solve the problem yourself. Just because you see it, or even understand it, doesn't mean that you will be able to solve it (Illusion of competence). It is always easier to look at the material, even if you think it's easy, then doing it yourself.

It gets easier. When you think that a chapter or a book has too much information and that there's no way to go through them all; just focus on whatever section you're studying. You'll find that once you put that first concept in your mental library, the following one will be easier.
This concept is called Transfer; a chunk you have mastered in one area can often help you much more easily learn other chunks of information in different areas.

Master the major idea and then start getting deeper. However, make sure not to get stuck in some details before having a general idea. Practice to help yourself gain mastery and sense of the big picture context. Try taking a "picture walk" before you dig through the material, this means, look briefly at the pictures, chapter titles, formulas used… before diving into details.

Recall mentally without looking at the material. This is proven more effective than to simply rereading. Reread only after you try to recall and write down what was in the material.

Consider recalling when you are in different places to become independent of the cues from any giving location. This will help you when taking a test in the class.

Test yourself to make sure you are actually learning and not fooling yourself into learning. Mistakes are a good thing. They allow you to catch illusions of competence.

Don't always trust your initial intuition. Einstellung problem (a German word for Mindset). An idea or a neural pattern you developed might prevent a new better idea from being found. Sometimes your initial intuition on what you need to be doing is misleading.You've to unlearn old ideas and approaches as you are learning new ones.

Mix up the problems (Interleaving) from different chapters. This is helpful to create connections between your chunks. It can make your learning a bit more difficult, but it helps you learn more deeply. Interleaving is very important. It is where you leave the world of practice and repetition, and begin thinking more independently.

Don'ts:

- Highlighting too much and creating maps are often ineffective without recalling.
- Repeating something you already learnt or know very well is easy. It can bring the illusion of competence; that you've mastered the full material when you actually just know the easy stuff. Balance your studies and focus on the more difficult (deliberate practice). This sets the difference between a good student and a great student.
- A big mistake is to blindly start working on an exercise without reading the textbook or attending the class. This is a recipe of sinking. It's like randomly allowing a thought to pop off in the focus mode without paying attention to where the solution truly lies.

Week 3: Procrastination and Memory

Procrastination:

- The routine, habitual responses your brain falls into when you try to do something hard or unpleasant. Focusing only on making the present moment feels better.

- Unlike procrastination which is easy to fall into, Willpower is hard to come by. It uses a lot of neural resources and you shouldn't waste it on fending off procrastination except when really necessary. You actually don't need to.
- The long-term effect of Procrastination can be dangerous. Putting your studies off leads to studying becoming even more painful. Procrastination is a habit that affects many areas of your life, if you improve in this area, many positive changes will unfold.
- Procrastination shares features with addiction. At first, it leads you to think that if you study too early you'll forget the material. Then, when the class is ahead of you, it leads you to think that you are inadequate or that the subject is too hard.
- You want to avoid cramming which doesn't build solid neural structures, by putting the same amount into your learning, and spacing it over a long period by starting earlier.

First time learning something:

- The first time you do something the deluge of information coming at you would make the job seem almost impossibly difficult. But, once you've chunked it, it will be simple.
- At first, it's really hard, later it's easy. It becomes like a habit. Ex: Driving for the first time.

Habits:

- Neuro-scientifically speaking, chunking is related to habit.
- Habit is an energy saver. You don't need to focus when performing different habitual tasks.
- Habits can be good or bad, brief or long.

Habits Parts:

10. The cue: The trigger that launches you into zombie mode (habitual routine).
11. Recognize what launches you in zombie procrastination mode:
12. Location. Time. Feelings. Reaction to people or events…
13. Consider shutting your phone/internet for brief periods of time to prevent most cues.
14. The routine: Routine you do in reaction to the cue.
15. You only need to use your willpower to change your reaction to the cues.
16. Actively focus on rewiring your old habits.
17. You need a plan. You need some willpower.
18. The reward: Habits exist because they reward us.
19. Give yourself bigger rewards for bigger achievements. But after you finish them.
20. Ex: If I study for 4 hours today, I'll watch a movie, guilt free, at night.
21. Habits are powerful because they create neurological cravings. It helps to add a new reward if you want to overcome your previous cravings.
22. Only once your brain starts expecting a reward will the important rewiring takes place that will allow you to create new habits.
23. The belief: To change your habits, you need to change your underlying belief.
24. Ex: You might feel like you'll never be able to change the habit of studying late. This is not true. You can actually rewire your brain
25. Joining a student community helps, either online or in real life.
26. Trust your system. You have to feel happy and worry-free when you are resting.

Weekly/Daily list:

- Researchers showed that writing your daily list the evening before helps you accomplish them the next day. If you don’t write them down, they will take the valuable slots of memory.
- Plan your finishing time, this is as important as planning your working time.
- Work in the most important and most disliked task first, even if it’s only one pomodoro.
- Take notes about what works and what doesn’t.
- Have a backup plan for when you will still procrastinate.

Focus on Process:
You should realize that it’s perfectly normal to start a learning session with a negative feeling even if you like the subject. It’s how you handle those feelings that matters.
Solution: Focus on the process, not the product. The product is what triggers the pain that causes you to procrastinate. Instead of saying "I will solve this task today", put your best effort for a period of time continuously over the days.

Memory:
- Use your visual memory to remember things.
- Ex: Link a memorable picture to a formula.
- Images help you encapsulate a very hard to remember concept by tapping into visual areas with enhanced memory abilities.
- The more neural hooks you can build by evoking the senses the easier it will be for you to recall the concept.
- Keep repeating what you want to learn so that the metabolic toxins won’t suck away the neural patterns related to that memory. Spaced repetition is the key.
- Flashcards help. Consider using Anki.
- Handwriting helps you deeply convert what you are trying to learn into neural memory structures.

Memory Techniques:
- Create meaningful groups and abbreviations.
- To remember numbers, associate them to memorable events.
- Create mnemonic phrases from first letters of the words you want to remember.
- Memory Palace Technique: Use a familiar place (like the blueprint of your house) and associate visual images of things you want to remember with physical places.
- This is not easy. You’ll be very slow at first. But with practice, you’ll get better.
- The more you practice your "memory muscle" the easier you’ll remember.

Week 4: Renaissance Learning and Unlocking Your Potential

You should know:

- Exercising is by far more effective than any drug to help you learn better. It helps new neurons survive.
- Learning doesn't always progress linearly and logically. Inevitably your brain will hit a knowledge-collapse sometimes. This usually means your brain is restructuring its understanding, building a more solid foundation.
- You learn complex concepts by trying to make sense out of the information you perceive. Not by having someone else telling it to you.

Metaphors

- Metaphors and analogies are very helpful, not only to memorize, but to also understand different concepts.
- It is often helpful to pretend that you are the concept you're trying to understand.

Intelligence:

- Intelligence does matter. Being smart usually equate to having a large working memory (more than just four slots).
- However, a super working memory can hold its thoughts so tightly that new thoughts won't easily find a way into the brain. Such a tightly controlled attention could use an occasional breath of ADHD. You attention shifts even if you don't want it to shift.
- Deliberate practice is what helps the average brain lift into the realm of those naturally gifted. Practicing certain mental patterns deepens your mind.
- Brilliant scientist like Ramón y Cajal, the father of neuroscience, or Charles Darwin, were not exceptionally gifted. The key to their success was perseverance, taking responsibility for their learning and changing their thoughts.
- Take pride in the qualities you excel at. Tune people out if they try to demean your efforts.

Right hemisphere:

- Helps us put our work into the big picture perspective and does reality checks.
- When you go through a homework or test questions and don't go back to check your work, you're acting like a person who's refusing to use parts of his brain.

Left hemisphere:

- Interprets the world for us but with a tendency for rigidity, dogmatism and egocentricity.
- May lead to overconfidence. Ex: believing dismissively that your answers are corrects.

Best practices:

- Always step back and recheck to takes advantages of abilities of both-hemispheres interactions.
- Brainstorm and find focused people to analyze your work with.
- Your errors are sometimes easier to be found by others.
- Explaining yourself to others helps you understand more.
- Studying in a team helps you catch what you missed, or what you can't see.
- Don't fool yourself. Don't blindly believe in your intellectual abilities. Having a team can bring those projections down.

Test Checklist:

- Did you make a serious effort to understand the text? If you had a study guide, did you go through it?
- Did you attempt to outline every homework problem solution?
- Did you understand all your homework problems' solutions? If not, did you ask for explanations?
- Did you work with classmates on homework problems? checked your solutions?
- Did you consult your instructor/teacher when you had a problem with something?
- Did you sleep well the night before the test?

Test Taking Technique: Hard Start - Jump to easy: (Try this strategy with homework problems first)

27. Take a quick look at the test when it's handed to you to get a sense of what it involves.
28. Start with the hardest problem. Pull yourself out if you get stuck for over 2 minutes. *Starting with a hard problem loads your focused mode first and then switches attention away from it. This allows the diffused mode to start its work.*
29. Turn next to an easy problem. Solves what you can, then move back to a hard one. *This allows the different part of your brain to work simultaneously on different thoughts.*

Taking Test Tips:

- Being Stressed before a test is normal. The body puts ups out chemicals when it's under stress. How you interpret the body reaction to those chemicals makes all the difference.
- Shift your thinking from "I am afraid of this test" to "I am excited to do my best".
- If you are stressed during a test, turn your attention to breathing. Relax, put your hand on your stomach and slowly draw some deep breaths. This will calm you down.
- Relax your brain on the last day before a test. Have a quick final look at the materials. Feeling guilty the last day is a natural reaction even if you prepared well. So relax.
- Good worry motivates you. Bad worry wastes your energy.
- Double check your answers. Look away, shift your attention, and then recheck.

From <https://www.reddit.com/r/GetMotivated/comments/5950tm/text_i_just_finished_the_online_coursera_course/>

Mine for cool ideas to include or write off as too smart

https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=10819355

http://mcntyr.com/52-concepts-cognitive-toolkit/

http://www.ludism.org/mentat

Not used

Cool things I could tell you about, but won't because there's better stuff to learn

Mind competitions

The magic of the abacus.

Symbolic shortcuts

There should be symbolic shortcuts for before, after, then, and, if, or, but, with, etc. (I think there is in the programming language symbolic, and in math Could make things faster to read and write https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_mathematical_symbols

Outline (yy probably only used for reference)

- Creativity
- Knowledge
- Learning
  - Abstraction
- Memory
- Problem solving
- Reaction time
- Spatial intelligence
- Spiritual intelligence
- Understanding
- Verbal intelligence
- Visual processing
- Capacities
  - Creativity
  - Emotion
  - Language
  - Imagination
  - Intellectual giftedness
  - Introspection
  - Memory
    - Metamemory
    - Pattern recognition
  - Metacognition
  - Mental imagery
  - Perception
  - Reasoning
    - Abductive reasoning
    - Deductive reasoning
    - Inductive reasoning

IQ genetic

- Genetic influence on human intelligence https://arxiv.org/abs/1408.3421